

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والراي

Turkey, Iraq discuss second pipeline

ANKARA (R) — Turkish and Iraqi officials met Monday to discuss final details of a second oil pipeline which is to be built between the two countries, the Anatolian news agency said. The two countries are to sign an agreement later this month for the pipeline which will carry Iraqi oil through Turkey to the Mediterranean, the agency said. The pipeline will be built parallel to an existing one from Iraq's Kirkuk oil fields to Turkey's southern Mediterranean port of Yumurtalik, now carrying some one million barrels of Iraqi oil a day. The final agreement for the second pipeline, which will carry between 500,000 and 600,000 barrels a day, is expected to be signed by Iraqi Oil Minister Jassem Ahmad Taqi in Turkey later this month, the agency said. It said a visiting Iraqi technical delegation and Turkish officials are discussing the minimum capacity, transport fees and the amortisation period of the pipeline.

Jordan invited to Delhi conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri received in his office Monday Indian Ambassador to Jordan Pyare Lal Santoshi, who conveyed to him an invitation to attend a ministerial level meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement to be held in New Delhi on April 18, 19 and 20. The New Delhi conference will discuss the issue of Namibia (South West Africa), which South Africa rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions. Also, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, in his capacity as the current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, might call for a meeting of the eight-member non-aligned committee on Palestine, according to embassy sources in Amman. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had sought a meeting of the committee in last November but it was delayed because of the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in October.

Volume 10 Number 2811

AMMAN, TUESDAY MARCH 5, 1985, JUMADA THANI 12, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Lebanese pound hits record low

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese pound hit a record low against the dollar Monday after Beirut airport came under mortar fire (see page 2) and a bomb exploded in a South Lebanese village killing 12 people, dealers said. The pound closed at 16.70/80 to the dollar compared with a 16.10/40 opening and Saturday's 16.20/26 close, they said.

UPI owners fire president

WASHINGTON (R) — The two principal owners of United Press International (UPI), the financially-troubled news agency, Monday fired the agency's president and announced they planned to relinquish control in a move aimed at guaranteeing its future. Douglas Ruhe and William Geissler, two Tennessee businessmen who took over UPI in 1982, said they had fired Luis Nogales as president and Ray Wechsler as financial consultant "to facilitate the restructuring of ownership." UPI officials were unavailable to comment on the announcement, which was issued over the agency's wires.

Protest against hanging continues in Karachi

KARACHI (R) — Baton-wielding police Monday dispersed hundreds of people protesting outside Karachi jail against the planned hanging of a man involved in a plane hijacking, witnesses said. They said about 300 people assembled to support a demand for clemency for Nasir Baluch, who is due to hang Tuesday. Mr. Baluch is one of four men sentenced to death by a military court for helping in the 1981 hijacking of a Pakistani airliner to Kabul and Damascus. The military government has commuted the sentences on three others to life imprisonment.

Iran-bound ship threatened in Spain

VALENCIA, Spain (R) — An Iranian anti-Khomeini group has threatened to blow up a cargo vessel which has dropped anchor two miles off the port city of Valencia, the state news agency EFE reported Monday. In a communiqué issued to EFE, the group, which called itself "Eria", said the vessel was carrying weapons for Iran and that a powerful bomb would explode aboard the ship. EFE said crew members of the 7,600 tonne Panamanian-registered Angeli were searching the vessel, which arrived from Barcelona in the vicinity Sunday night.

Iran says Iraqis raided nuclear plant

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraqi war planes bombed a gas station and steel plant in Ahwaz, capital of the southern Iranian oil province of Khuzestan Monday, then attacked Iran's nuclear plant at Bushehr on the Gulf, IRNA, the official Iranian news agency, reported. It was the second attack on the nuclear plant in about 20 days, IRNA said. In mid-February one person was killed in a two-plane raid which did not damage the plant, IRNA said.

INSIDE

- * Lebanese army on alert against any sudden Israeli pullout, page 2
- * Large quantity of gypsum found in south Jordan, page 3
- * Like the rains, better late than never, by Rami Khoury, page 4
- * Ancient palace found in Syria, page 5
- * East Germany dominates European indoor athletics, page 6
- * British miners begin to return to work, page 7
- * 100 die, over 1,000 injured in Chilean quake, page 8

Israel suspected of planting bomb in raided mosque

11 killed, 40 injured in Maarake explosion

Resistance leader dead, another buried under rubble

MAARAKE, Lebanon (Agencies) — A booby-trap bomb killed 11 people, including the local leader of the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia, and wounded 40 when it ripped through a religious centre in this South Lebanese village Monday.

Security sources quoted by Reuters said the toll included Amal military chief Mohammad Saad, 25, who was flown to hospital in a U.N. helicopter but died later of his injuries. Amal officials told Reuters that another Amal leader, Khalil Jeradi, was lying under the rubble of the *huseiniyeh* (religious centre), whose outer wall was blown out by the blast. U.N. troops estimated the bomb at 15 kilograms. Mr. Saad said Mr. Jeradi had coordinated mounting resistance attacks on Israeli troops from a cluster of villages east of Tyre known for their resistance to Israeli occupation. The two men were attending a meeting of Amal officials and villagers in an upper room of the centre when the bomb exploded at 10 a.m. (0800 GMT), villagers said. It went off less than 48 hours

after Israeli troops left Maarake following an 11-hour security sweep, their biggest raid against a single village in South Lebanon.

Mr. Saad on Sunday told reporters who reached Maarake after the Israeli raid that his men would carry out cross-border reprisal attacks on northern Israel if South Lebanese villages were raided again.

"Israel is pushing us to take harder steps. The next response is in the Galilee, and Israel must get ready," he said. "We have the means and God's power to do it."

Mr. Saad, a Maarake resident, was arrested by the Israelis in February 1984, according to Shi'ite leaders in South Lebanon. Shortly after Mr. Saad's arrest, Daoud Daoud, the top Amal leader in South Lebanon, told an Associated Press reporter that Mr. Saad was one of the key Shi'ite

leaders in the south. Mr. Saad was eventually released and returned to Maarake.

Villagers told Reuters the Israelis entered the *huseiniyeh* during Saturday's raid and accused the Israelis of planting the bomb. Amal officials said they believed it had been placed in a sofa or bookcase. The bomb could have had a delayed time fuse, they speculated.

Lebanon's state radio accused Israel of engineering the explosion. "Israel committed a new crime, a new massacre, in the occupied south," Beirut Radio said. "Occupation forces have destroyed the mosque of Maarake over worshippers who have been attending a religious ceremony."

In Beirut, President Amin Gemayel summoned the ambassadors or charges d'affaires of the five permanent member countries of the U.N. Security Council to brief them on the explosion. Prime Minister Rashid Karami told reporters the meeting discussed Lebanon's complaint to the council, submitted last month, about Israeli practices in South Lebanon.

He said: "It looks from these practices as though Israel has lost its nerve and panicked." In Tyre, doctors said 40 Israeli troops firing automatic weapons stormed the city's main Jabal Amal hospital looking for patients from Maarake. The doctors said the Israelis beat up hospital director Ahmad Mroue before arresting at least seven people queuing outside the hospital to give blood for bomb victims. Several people were tied up and slung over the top of armoured personnel carriers, the doctors said.

Doctor Abu Khalil said: "They looked for people from Maarake. Luckily they were taken elsewhere."

Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said in a communiqué issued at UNIFIL's headquarters in Naqura that the dead included one baby. U.N. soldiers and rescue workers removed six bodies from the rubble. They were covered and taken to another mosque in the village, which is 12 kilometres east of the port of Tyre in an area known as the "arc of resistance."

A bearded member of the Amal

(Continued on page 2)



A Maarake villager counts the bodies of people killed when a large bomb went off in the village mosque Monday (AP wirephoto)

King, PLO officials discuss agreement on joint action

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and two senior officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Monday discussed various aspects of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO on a formula for joint action towards Middle East peace.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said King Hussein received Salah Khalaf, number two man in Fatah, the mainstream PLO commando movement, and Brigadier Abdul Razak Al Yahya, members of the PLO Executive Committee, at Al Nadwa Palace. The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jaseem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Royal Court Secretary General Rajai Dajani, the news agency said.

"These discussions are of great importance, particularly after the many statements made following the announcement of the joint draft agreement and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's statements," according to a PLO source quoted by Reuters.

Following the meeting with the King, Mr. Khalaf and Mr. Abbas left Amman for an unknown destination. According to Reuters Mr. Khalaf and PLO Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi were in Algiers on Sunday for talks with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on Mr. Mubarak's proposal for talks between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the United States to prepare for bringing in Israel and all other parties involved in the Middle East conflict to the peace process. The Egyptian president's proposal stipulated that the PLO, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, should name the Palestinian members to the joint delegation.

Earlier on Monday, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted in the Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Ithad as saying Jordan and the PLO had arranged meetings to discuss clarifications sought by the PLO to the accord.

Meanwhile, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi was quoted Monday as blaming Israel

and the United States for the impasse in Middle East peace efforts. In an interview with Saudi daily newspaper Al Riyadh, he said: "I believe there are many indications that peace is not imminent, as Israel persists in its policies of expansion and the United States refrains from exercising pressure on it."

Mr. Essebsi said his country was an Arab League member and adhered to the Arab peace plan adopted at the 1982 Fez summit. The plan calls for an independent Palestinian state but implicitly recognises Israel.

Commenting on the Jordan-PLO accord, he said: "Tunisia regards the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and adheres to the principle of non-interference in Palestinian affairs."

"But if the PLO finds it is in its interests to deal with the Jordanians on a joint approach, Tunisia will have nothing to say and will continue to support the PLO," he added.

Mubarak urges positive world response to Jordan-PLO accord

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Monday a breakthrough had been achieved with Jordan's accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a joint strategy towards Middle East peace terms and he urged the United States and Israel to exploit it.

Mr. Mubarak used a speech opening the 34th general assembly of the International Press Institute (IPI) to advance efforts to get active United States involvement in steps to restart Middle East talks.

Mr. Mubarak, who meets President Reagan in Washington on March 12, suggested last month that the United States should confer with a Jordanian-Palestinian team of negotiators as a first step to talks with Israel.

Jordan and the PLO agreed in Amman on Feb. 11 on a formula for joint action towards settling

the Palestinian problem.

"I see in this move a golden opportunity to achieve peace in the Middle East which should be exploited," Mr. Mubarak told 320 editors, news executives and leading journalists from 40 countries Monday.

"We call on the United States, Israel and the European Community (EC) and all interested parties to give this initiative the importance it deserves and encourage the start of a preliminary dialogue," he said.

The Jordan-PLO accord called for a joint Jordanian-PLO delegation to an international conference involving the United States, the Soviet Union and the other three permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Both Israel and the United States have rejected the idea of an international conference.

In an attempt to skirt these misgivings Mr. Mubarak has suggested that the joint delegation include Palestinians who are not known members of the PLO. He also has said that the envisioned international conference might be convened only to sanction an agreement worked out among the principals.

Mr. Mubarak said: "Obstacles still hinder the achievement of this great goal (an Arab-Israeli settlement) which can spare the region and its people war and destruction."

"This (Jordan-PLO) agreement may be just a start that must be followed by other steps, so a real change can be brought about in the situation," the Egyptian president told the IPI.

"Yet it is a big and fundamental

(Continued on page 2)

Peres sees thaw in Egypt-Israel ties

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday that despite doubts over the future of an Egyptian peace proposal, relations with Egypt are already improving.

"It is still too early to establish what the Mubarak initiative will bring," Mr. Peres said, referring to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's call last week for direct talks between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

"But one thing is clear. After a long period of frozen relations between us and Egypt the freeze has thawed," he said during a speech at a school in Eilat.

"People come to us by day and by night, and a dialogue has begun. The fact of dialogue I welcome," he said.

Mr. Peres arrived in Eilat Monday morning, accompanied by Tourism Minister Avraham Shafir. Besides the school, he visited the town's harbour, a new hotel complex and two factories.

Eilat is seven kilometres north of the disputed border area of Taba beach. Together with an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and progress on Palestinian "autonomy" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Egypt has demanded the return of the one square kilometre beach as the conditions for the return of its ambassador to Tel Aviv.

Egypt withdrew its envoy in September 1982 to protest the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Mr. Peres said last month that if negotiation over solving the question of sovereignty in Taba prove fruitless, Israel was prepared to

accept arbitration in order to improve bilateral relations.

One newspaper reported that Mr. Peres had a novel idea to save the stalled Taba negotiations, which broke down after three days of meetings between Israeli and Egyptian officials here five weeks ago.

The daily tabloid Hadashot reported that Mr. Peres planned to send Al Schwimmer, a long-time American friend and advisor, to Egypt to propose a joint Israeli-Egyptian business venture in Taba.

Israel refused to return Taba to Egypt with the rest of the Sinai desert, arguing that Taba was not part of Egypt according to a Turkish map of 1906. Israel occupied the peninsula together with Taba during the 1967 Mideast war.

(Continued on page 2)

Luce welcomes new Mideast peace moves

ABU DHABI (AP) — British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce was quoted Monday as expressing London's appreciation of both the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Middle East peace strategy as well as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's initiative for direct talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel.

The British minister told a joint committee meeting with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that his country "welcomed" both efforts towards a Middle East settlement, according to the UAE acting foreign secretary, Yacoub Al Kindi.

The UAE side led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rasheed Abdullah stressed the UAE's view calling for the Palestinian right for self-determination and an independent state. Mr. Kindi said in statements to the Emirates news agency WAM.

The U.K. side also expressed satisfaction over the Israeli mil-

itary withdrawals from Lebanon. The UAE side condemned the Israeli practices in South Lebanon, Mr. Kindi said.

Gulf diplomatic sources said Mr. Luce's talks were focusing on the latest developments in the Gulf war and means of boosting bilateral relations.

Before leaving Abu Dhabi for Riyadh on Monday Mr. Luce said the Jordan-PLO accord should be respected.

"We believe that the positive moves that are being made now should be encouraged as much and possible. We support anything that is constructive and positive," he told a press conference.

"We believe very strongly that the lead and initiative for developing the peace process must come from parties who have to live with each other..."

"That is we say that the ideas emerging from King Hussein and (PLO Chairman) Mr. Arafat are ones that we should encourage," he said.

French air force men released in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopian rebels Monday freed unarmed French air force crewmen who had been seized Sunday along with their wheat-carrying cargo plane while on a famine relief mission, a French embassy spokesman said.

The plane had carried eight tonnes of wheat for thousands of people in the northern town of Lalibela. A drought is threatening nine million Ethiopians with starvation across the country.

Diplomats in Addis Ababa said Sunday that four foreign medical staff of the Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) volunteer relief organisation had also been abducted in the episode.

But officials in Paris and an MSF spokesman in Ethiopia said Monday that the medical workers, initially thought to have been aboard the Transal cargo plane, were not on it and were never involved in the drama.

The MSF spokesman said he had learned that the rebels had seized the wheat but this could not be immediately confirmed.

Diplomats in Ethiopia said they were fairly sure the rebels belonged to the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which is fighting the central government, seeking more autonomy.

Ethiopian rebel groups say they are feeding hundreds of thousands of people who are denied food by the government.

Diplomats said Sunday's incident underlined the vulnerability of aid workers to abduction by rebels in the northern province of Wollo.

OAU schedules major economic summit in July

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Organisation of African Unity (OAU) foreign ministers ended a week-long meeting here Monday which has paved the way for the first major review of the continent's faltering economies in five years.

OAU states agreed to hold a summit meeting in Addis Ababa from July 18 to 21 which will attempt to find remedies for falling food output, stagnant economic growth and the recurrent nightmare of widespread hunger be-

cause of drought.

It will be the first time the OAU has devoted a heads of state summit to economic matters since a summit meeting in the Nigerian capital of Lagos in 1980 drew up a blueprint for coordinated economic development throughout Africa.

Few details of the foreign ministers' session were available but Nigerian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Gambari said he was satisfied with its outcome.

Lebanese army on alert for any sudden Israeli pullout

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's army has been ordered to be alert for any sudden withdrawal of Israeli forces from east Lebanon, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

The order came a few hours after the Israeli cabinet gave the go-ahead Sunday for a military pullback from the eastern Bekaa Valley, where most of Israel's estimated 10,000 occupation troops are stationed.

Israeli military sources said the pullback to within about 15 kilometres north of the Lebanese-Israeli border would begin immediately and last up to three months.

Amal militia in the South, Muhammad Saad, said his men had "the means and God's power" to carry out reprisal attacks.

The warnings followed a raid by 800 Israeli troops and intelligence agents on the village of Maarakah on Saturday, the biggest of about 30 raids on Shiite villages near Tyre since Israel began a crackdown on suspected commandos 12 days ago.

Security sources said the Israelis shot dead one man, wounded three villagers and arrested 17 people in the Maarakah raid.

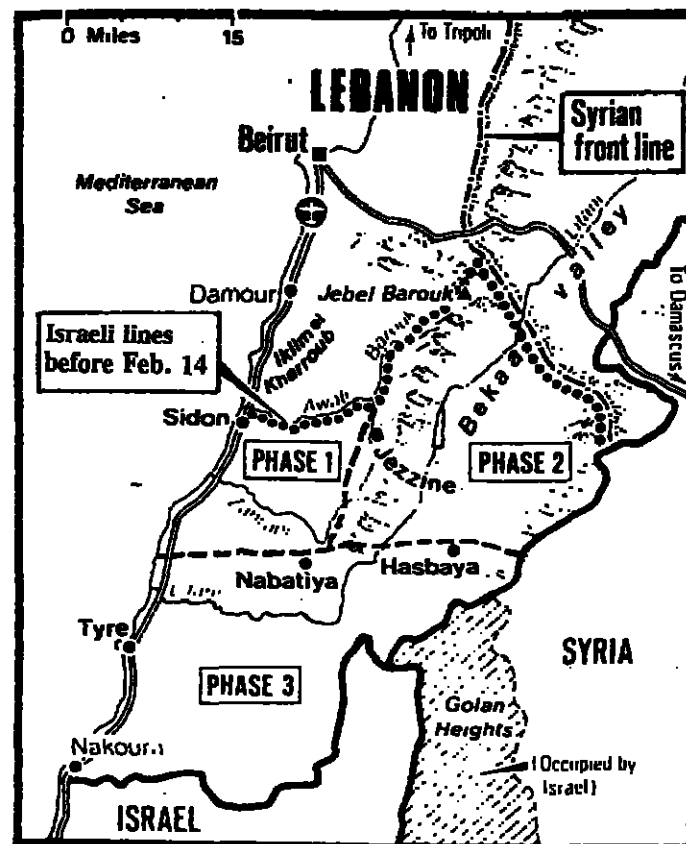
In reprisal, commandos Sunday fought a three-hour battle using

mortar bombs and grenades with Israeli troops near the village of Deir Janoun, three kilometres north of Maarakah.

Security sources said the Israelis fired more than 1,000 rifle rounds in reply.

Three rockets were also fired at Israeli troops near Jouwaya, five kilometres south of Maarakah. There was no word on casualties in Sunday's clashes.

Israeli military sources said Sunday night Israeli troops had killed a suspected commando after an Israeli patrol was ambushed near the village of Bedias, north east of Tyre.



UNIFIL caught in middle of commando war

BOURJ RAHHAL, Lebanon (R) — The soldiers in bright blue helmets among the hills of South Lebanon say they feel like "poor bastards" caught amid a fierce commando war.

They are U.N. peacekeeping troops unable to keep the peace as Lebanese commandos fight to drive out the Israeli army, and the Israelis brush them aside to raid the southern villages they are meant to protect.

Armed, but authorised to shoot only as a last resort in self-defence, the 6,000-man U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) can do little to fulfil its Security Council mandate to protect the people of South Lebanon.

To the Israelis fighting the commandos, the U.N. troops are a nuisance. To some villagers they are a disappointment.

Through diplomacy and occasional bravado, some contingents in the 10-nation force do enough peace-keeping to earn Lebanese charges that they stand and watch as the Israelis shoot people and wreck villages.

"Yes, everyone calls us bastards, but we're poor bastards," said an angry French sergeant at a checkpoint near the village of Bourj Rahhal, badly damaged by

Israeli punitive raids. Some 600 French troops are posted along the port city of Tyre in hill country considered the centre of anti-Israeli resistance. They are in villages and at checkpoints near Israeli strongpoints.

UNIFIL's Security Council mandate is to protect inhabitants, oversee Israeli withdrawal and help restore the Beirut government's authority in South Lebanon.

But the men are confused and frustrated by their role.

"With these blue helmets we can only stand around and watch and we serve for nothing," said a French soldier. "The Israelis can fire over our heads and we don't have the right to reply."

At another French post a soldier said: "I know what a soldier does in a war. It would be all right if we were allowed to shoot. But with these blue helmets you have to be a diplomat, not a soldier, and I don't know how to do that."

Sources close to UNIFIL say the French would like to open fire to protect the villagers. "The men are as professional as any soldiers in the area... I think they would like to open fire, but they are forced to be diplomats," said one informant.

In Beirut, the Shiite Fun-

damentalist "Hizbollah" (Party of God) accuses the French of helping the Israeli raids and has threatened to attack UNIFIL, but the French clashed with Israeli troops three times last month.

In Bourj Rahhal, soldiers crowded into a house and fought with fists trying to stop Israeli troops bulldozing it. A soldier also fired back when an Israeli shot above his head.

A French convoy was fired on later at an Israeli roadblock and got through only after threatening to fire back.

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel said that since the U.N. force cannot fight to protect the villagers, "we try to negotiate to temper Israeli actions by persuasion, and ensure that they act according to humanitarian principles."

French reinforcements go in when the Israelis raid villages. "We go between the Israelis and the people, and the Israelis don't push too much to mistreat them," a soldier said.

"But we can't control the Israelis. We go on rooftops to stop them bulldozing the houses and the bulldozers just carry on. We only just have time to jump down and save ourselves."

Many Lebanese express sym-

pathy and respect for the French. "But the Israelis don't respect the French soldiers at all. They treat them like dogs and hit them with their fists," a member of the Shiite Amal Movement in Bourj Rahhal said.

In nearby Maarakah, Amal's military chief in the South said French commander Gen. Jean Pons told him he wanted to curb the Israelis after seeing what they did in the villages.

"The French are better than other U.N. troops because they do more to stop the Israelis," said Muhammad Saad. "But the Israelis make it difficult for them and insult them."

Gen. Pons, UNIFIL's deputy commander, was with 50 French troops in Maarakah when 800 Israelis stormed in last week on their biggest raid yet to demolish houses and detain villagers.

In Beirut, Amal leader Nabih Berri withdrew earlier criticisms of UNIFIL, calling for its reinforcement and deployment up to the Israeli border under a stronger mandate.

"We salute this force and we appreciate its role, specially that of the French contingent," he said, threatening attacks on Israeli villages if the raids in South Lebanon continued.

Numeiri declares ceasefire in fight with guerrillas

KHARTOUM (R) — President Jaafar Numeiri of Sudan has declared a ceasefire by his troops fighting a two-year bush war in the south and repeated an offer of amnesty to the rebels.

In a speech marking the 13th anniversary of the Addis Ababa Accords that brought to an end 17 years of civil war between north and south Sudan, Mr. Numeiri also attacked critics of his introduction of Islamic Law.

"We announce a ceasefire by the People's Armed Forces... their role will be limited to defence in case of attack by the outlaws or if the interests of the nation are faced with any danger," he said.

"We renew our announcement

of a general amnesty for all those who return home, abandon violence and accept dialogue."

Rebels of the Southern Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) have rejected Mr. Numeiri's previous calls for talks, saying they want his overthrow. Mr. Numeiri says the rebels are Ethiopia-based and Libya-financed.

Mr. Numeiri hailed Monday's visit to Sudan by U.S. Vice-President George Bush as "affirming absolutely the ties of friendship between the United States and Sudan". Mr. Bush is to visit camps for Ethiopian refugees and Sudanese drought victims in eastern and western Sudan.

Ceausescu flies to Libya amid Mideast initiative

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu left Monday for Libya for the latest in a series of contacts with key figures in the Middle East.

The official Agerpres News Agency, received in Vienna, said Mr. Ceausescu was accompanied by top trade and economic ministers and was also expected to try to boost bilateral relations.

He was due to confer with Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi during his three-day visit.

Mr. Ceausescu, who is seeking a mediating role in the Middle East, advocates a United Nations-sponsored conference of all parties, attended by the Soviet Union and the United States.

Within the last month visitors to

Bucharest have included Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, a special envoy of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Romania is the only Soviet Bloc state with diplomatic relations with Israel, and Mr. Ceausescu has been credited with a back-stage role in bringing Egyptian and Israeli leaders together during the Camp David peace process in the 1970s.

Romania is engaged in several construction projects in Libya. It is also an importer of Libyan oil, and has been seeking cheap oil imports to relieve a domestic energy crisis.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
MAIN CHANNEL 17:00 Kanan 17:10 Cartoon 17:30 Children's Programme 18:10 Trauma Centre 19:00 Local Programme 19:25 Programme Review 19:35 News Programme 19:50 Arts 20:00 News in Arabic 20:35 Arabic Series 21:25 News in Hebrew 21:30 Various Programmes 22:00 News in Arabic FOREIGN CHANNEL 17:30 German Programme for Children 18:00 Mireille Mathieu 19:00 News in French 19:15 Electro Shock 19:30 News in Arabic 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Star of the Family 21:00 Towards 2000 21:10 News in English 22:00 News in English 22:15 Hardcastle and McCormick RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW 07:00 Light Music 07:30 News Desk 08:00 Morning Show 10:00 News Summary 10:05 Morning Show Contd. 11:00 Pop Session Contd. 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session Contd. 12:30 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session Contd. 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Instrumentals 14:15 Country Music 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals 16:30 Old Favourites 17:00 Science Report 17:30 Pop Session 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Top Twenty 19:00 Newsdesk 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:05 Evening Show Contd. 21:30 News Summary 22:00 Evening Show Contd. 22:30 News Summary 22:35 Evening Show Contd. 22:57 News Headlines 14:00 Close down	06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Classical 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Ref- lections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 News Ideas 07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Rock Salad 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Seven Wonders of the Modern World 09:45 Network UK 10:15 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Six of Old Age 10:30 The Elements of Music 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 What's New 12:00 News Summary followed by Dis- covery 12:30 Whies and Daughters 12:45 In Spite of Ourselves 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 Letter from London 13:25 Scotland this Week 13:30 Sports International 14:00 Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Foreign Cor- respondents 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Recording of the Week 16:00 Out- look 16:45 My Country in Mind 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 A Jolly Good Show 18:00 World News 18:09 Com- mentary 18:15 Omnibus 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 Scotland This Week 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Nature Notebook 20:40 The Far- ming World 21:00 Outlook: News Summary 21:39 Stock Market Report 21:45 That's That 22:00 World News 22:09 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Foreign Correspondent 23:00 News Summary: Letter from London 23:10 Book Choice 23:15 Concert Hall 24:00 News: The World Today 06:25 Scotland this Week 06:30 Financial News 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports Round-up VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260, SW 7200, 9505, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz 06:00 VOA Morning News: Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Fea- ture Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour, 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Fea- tures 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News and Fea- tures 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITION	MUSICAL	CULTURAL CENTRES	CHURCHES	MUSEUMS	PRAYER TIMES
* Indian Book Exhibition at Yarmouk University. * "Oliver" at the Royal Cultural Cen- tre at 7:30 p.m.		Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Centre Tel. 44371 British Council Tel. 41520 French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009 Goethe Institute Tel. 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 42039 Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 42039 Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777 Hayat Arts Centre Tel. 661595 Hussein Youth City Tel. 667181 Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41793 Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111 University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweideh, 37440. De la Sable Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdull, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Red- cemptor) Jabal Amman, 25383. Armenian Catholic Church Ash- rahbeh, 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrahbeh, 775201. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrahbeh, 771751. Amman International Church (Inter- denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmezzan, 816534.	Fakhre Museum: Jewelry and cos- tumes of 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al (Jabal Citadel) Hill. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col- lection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lweideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dat- ing from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	06:37 Fajr 06:57 (Sunrise) Duha 11:08 Dhuhur 12:46 'Asr 17:26 Maghreb 18:59 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTL. AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC	MONEY EXCHANGE	WEATHER
This information is supplied by Ala in- formation department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Buzurgan — Asanad Peace — Cyprus — Sea March — Ville du Levant — Elton Amin Kawan and Sons Company. Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service.	Local selling rates in Jls Belgian franc 61.6/ 62.1 Dutch guilder 109.4/ 110.3 Egyptian pound 301.5/ 302.3 French franc 40.6/ 40.9 Iraqi dinar 368.3/ 375 Italian lire (for 100) 19.8/ 20.1 Japanese yen (for 100) 159.2/ 160.5 Kuwaiti dinar 13.49/ 13.56 Lebanese lira 26.2/ 27.5 Omani rial 119.3/ 120.6 Saudi riyal 119.4/ 121.1 Syrian pound 115.4/ 115.9 Swedish crown 43.8/ 44.2 Swiss franc 144.6/ 145.8 U.A.E. dirham 34.9/ 36 U.S. dollar 113.3/ 114.5 U.K. sterling pound 445.1/ 448.7 U.S. dollar 415/ 417.5 W. German mark 123.9/ 124.9	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Medium and high clouds will appear, with a gradual rise in temperature and winds will be southerly to moderate to fresh. Dewy condition will prevail in southern and eastern parts of the coun- try. In Aqaba, it will be dusty, with northerly fresh winds and calm seas. Low/high temperature in deg.C. Amman 17/4 Aqaba 6/23 Azraq 0/16 Jordan Valley 3/21 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 21. Humidity re- readings: Amman 27 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	HOSPITALS	GENERAL
Ambulance 770910 Fire 23672 First aid, police 199 Blood bank 775121 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 220993 Police rescue 192, 2111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 36390-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333	Hussein Medical Centre 81381-32 Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 42481-4 Al-Ahli Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Malika, J. Amman 66411-4 Palestine, Shmezzan 66411-4 Shmezzan Hospital 669131 Shmezzan Hospital 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Musaher Hospital 66727-9 The Islamic, Abdull 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdull 664164 Italian, Al-Ahli 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrahbeh 771511 Army, Marza 91611	Dr. Mohammad Al Ta'ani 243711 ZARQA: Dr. Khalid Abu Hussein 985001 Belal pharmacy 771050 Omar pharmacy (—) Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661176 Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 12 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 17 Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.	Lettoes (per one)
Apple 250/ 250 Banana 280/ 240 Banana (Ananas) 240/ 210 Beans 240/ 210 Broad beans 150/ 120 Cabbage 60/ 50 Chestnut 140/ 100 Carrot (yellow) 150/ 120 Carrot (black) 170/ 140 Cauliflower 80/ 50 Cucumber (large) 150/ 120 Cucumber (small) 260/ 210 Eggplant (large) 170/ 140 Eggplant (small) 150/ 120 Garlic 180/ 160 Grapefruit 140/ 100 Lemon 130/ 100	200/ 70 250/ 200 300/ 120 300/ 100 260/ 210 160/ 120 140/ 100 280/ 240 170/ 140 70/ 50 580/ 540 640/ 580 640/ 580 170/ 140 70/ 50 80/ 50 190/ 140 130/ 100

Journalists should heed critics, Mubarak says

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak advised leaders of world journalism on Monday to heed criticism voiced against the press in recent years, even though it often "went beyond rightful limits."

"Public trust in the message of the press is essential to maintaining press freedom," he told the opening session of the International Press Institute's (IPI) 34th general assembly.

The IPI is a global organisation of newspaper publishers and other journalism executive dedicated to the promotion of a free press and to the fight against censorship.

"In recent years, violent criticism has been levelled at the free press," Mr. Mubarak said. "Although I believe this criticism went beyond rightful limits, I hope that press people will take the criticism into account."

"Any detraction from the commitment to accuracy of information, honesty in verifying it with the proper sources and aiming at the public interest... would involve aggression by the journalist on the freedom of the press."

Mr. Mubarak said the goal of

the free press should be to "become a driving force to propel mankind along the path of enlightenment, removal of tensions and curbs on the terrible race for the manufacture and acquisition of mass-destruction weapons."

Speaking in Arabic, Mr. Mubarak said the convening of the IPI's annual meeting in Cairo "is evidence of your respect for the Egyptian press," which he said is "free, without overt or covert censorship."

Earlier, however, IPI Director Peter Gallinger called for changes in the state of the press in Egypt, noting a trend toward a greater variety of voices.

"It is a very good omen having this greater variety," Mr. Gallinger said "but we also hope the ownership of press becomes less restrictive. Progress in your country would be greatly assisted by more pluralism in the media."

"In saluting you, we salute your development toward a free press." Newspapers in Egypt are owned by the government or by political parties, with individual ownership of new newspapers banned.

Morocco, Algeria continue secret talks on W. Sahara

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP) — Despite a continuing headline public stance by Algeria and Morocco in their 10-year-old conflict over the Western Sahara, the leaders of both countries have publicly confirmed for the first time that they are pursuing secret contacts aimed at ending the conflict.

In nationally televised speeches delivered five days apart — and clearly heard on both sides of the border — King Hassan II and Algeria's President Chadli Benjedid declared their willingness to continue these secret talks, but extended little hope of an early settlement.

Algeria and Morocco broke relations in 1975 over Algeria's military, financial and diplomatic support for the Marxist-led Polisario independence movement in the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara.

The two Arab neighbours have repeatedly verged on war as Polisario guerrillas attacked the Moroccan army from sanctuaries in Algeria. Using largely American and French-supplied weaponry, the 10,000-man Moroccan army has now virtually eliminated the guerrillas from the mineral-rich northern half of the territory, but lost an estimated 10,000 men in the process.

At the same time, the Polisario has won recognition from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and from 61 nations in all parts of the world as a legitimate "liberation movement."

In a speech broadcast Sunday, King Hassan said the five countries of the Arab Maghreb (west) — Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania — could only achieve full economic and social progress within some kind

of merger. The first step toward such a merger, King Hassan said, was his 1984 treaty of union with Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi, whom he called "my brother... the guide of the Libyan revolution."

King Hassan pledged the secret talks with Algeria would never bring him to make concessions on Morocco's "one and indivisible national sovereignty." He warned Mr. Benjedid he would never abandon one inch of Moroccan territory "from Tangier to La Guera," the desert outpost at the southern extreme of the Western Sahara.

While the speech gave no hint of any possible Moroccan concession to Algeria or the Polisario, diplomatic sources noted that the king two days earlier had cancelled plans to celebrate the annual throne festival to have been held for the first time in El Aynun, the capital of the disputed territory.

The sources, insisting on anonymity, said the king's action was clearly an important concession to the Algerians who had denounced the planned El Aynun festivities as an intolerable provocation and an incitement to Polisario violence.

Mr. Benjedid's noticeably conciliatory speech, delivered in Algiers Tuesday, offered for the first time to join in a merger with Morocco, provided the Sahara conflict was settled.

Mr. Benjedid suggested the best way toward such a settlement would be to make the Western Sahara a sixth component of a future federation. It was the first major speech by an Algerian leader in more than 10 years that did not contain a single reference to the Polisario.

Mahmoud expresses Jordan's appreciation for Spain's policy

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has expressed appreciation for Spain's position toward the Arab causes, particularly regarding Spain's refusal to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

Appreciation for Spain's stand was voiced by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud in a meeting with Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez De Valle with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Spanish relations and bilateral cooperation in all fields.

The ambassador lauded bilateral ties and stressed the need for Spanish efforts aimed at alleviating the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees. During the meeting the ambassador said that the Spanish city of Valencia has donated blankets to Palestinian refugees.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Husak receives envoy's credentials

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian Ambassador in Moscow Faleh Al Tawael has presented Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak with his credentials as non-resident Jordanian ambassador to Czechoslovakia. During the ceremony, relations between the two countries and latest developments in the region were discussed. The ambassador reviewed with the president the recent Jordanian-Palestinian accord on peace in the region, Jordan's continued efforts to regain Arab solidarity and Jordan's efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Zaben introduces off-peak phone rate

AMMAN (J.T.) — Local telephone calls will be cut by 50 per cent if they are executed between 8 p.m. and 7 a.m., according to directives from Minister of Communications Mohammad Addouh Al Zaben. Dr. Zaben asked the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) to re-programme its computers to bill subscribers half the price for all calls within the country during the said hours.

Anani, Belgian envoy discuss trade

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Anani Monday received the Belgian Ambassador to Jordan Andre Turine and reviewed trade and economic relations between the two countries and ways to develop them.

Committee plans for industrial display

AMMAN (Petra) — The executive committee for the Jordanian Industrial exhibition, scheduled to take place on June 10, Monday discussed plans pertaining to the festival. Dr. Ibrahim Badran, under secretary at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, chaired the meeting during which a work plan for the next two weeks. The committee also discussed the allocation of a piece of land in Marj Al Hammam where the exhibition is to be held.

Mahafzah meets Omani delegation

KARAK (Petra) — Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafzah Monday received the secretary general of the founding committee for setting up Sultan Jabos University in Oman Sheikh Amer Ibn Omeir and the delegation accompanying him. Dr. Mahafzah briefed the delegation on the university's stages, its goals and educational programmes. The delegation toured the university's various facilities and expressed their admiration for its achievements. Dr. Mahafzah presented a token gift to Sheikh Amer.

1,016 traffic fines in one day

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of traffic fines issued all over the country on Saturday amounted to 1,016, not including 277 fines for speeding detected by radar.



EDUCATION TALKS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday receives a delegation from the International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for discussions on means of strengthening cooperation with Jordanian universities (Petra photo).

Ministry of Public Works signs road study agreements with local companies

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works Monday signed three agreements with local engineering offices for preparing field studies and conducting surveys on secondary and country roads in the Kingdom's governorates and districts.

The agreement also provides for drawing up maps of road sections, bridges, water drainage systems and safety measure aspects until the year 2000.

The agreements, which come as part of the ministry's policy to improve the Kingdom's roads network, include defining the priorities of building country roads which are due to be built within the next five years. The roads will be categorised by three topographic areas: the northern, central and southern regions of the Kingdom based on socio-economic surveys of the villages the roads pass through. The local companies will also prepare the tenders for the various road projects. The survey includes 3,500 kilometres of roads in addition to another 1,000 kilometres of new, unconstructed roads.

Nijem meets IRF team

Meanwhile, Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem met Monday with International Road Federation (IRF) President Gerald Welton and the visiting accompanying delegation who are currently on a visit to Jordan within a tour of some Arab countries.

At the outset of the meeting Mr. Nijem reviewed the ministry's activities and future plans contained in the forthcoming five-year development 1986-1990 plan as well as the ministry's plan for completing and improving the road network in the Kingdom.

The meeting discussed the possibility of the IRF helping in the field of holding training courses and making familiarisation tours for the ministry's engineers, sending a number of university professors abroad to conduct research and supporting joint research projects. Also reviewed was the possibility of the IRF help in holding regional scientific conferences in Arab countries and financing road development projects.

Jordanian specialists highlight lack of staff for educating the handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — A working paper presented to a seminar on special education, now in progress in Amman, has revealed that at least 16 million handicapped children now live in the Arab World, of whom 10 million are under 24 years of age.

The paper, prepared by Dr. Farouk Al Rousan from the University of Jordan, said that only 30,000 handicapped children now benefit from special education and other related services due to a lack of proper centres that can cater for their needs and also because of the shortage of qualified and skilled staff that can handle the problems of the handicapped. Nearly 500,000 skilled personnel are required to offer special education to handicapped children in the Arab World, the paper said.

The paper stressed the need for recruiting and training personnel in special education skills to be able to implement special courses at specialised centres.

Abilization of handicapped people. The paper said that such an institution, along with the various special education centres in Jordan and other Arab countries, could serve this purpose.

Another working paper submitted to the participants at Monday's session spoke about participation by parents in developing special education courses for the handicapped.

The paper, prepared by Dr. Yasser Salem from the University of Jordan, also called for expanding special education and including some of its courses in ordinary schools to help handicapped children there to adapt to community needs.

Attending the seminar are delegates from Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Kuwait, representing public and private institutions and employed in the field of special education.

Ministry announces one million ton mineral find

Large quantities of gypsum found in Southern Jordan

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Exploratory research and mining in Malih area, in a district of Tafila in Southern Jordan, proved to find reserve quantities of gypsum amounting to one million tons, which could be a source of supply for the South Cement Factory for the coming ten years, sources at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources announced Monday.

The sources told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that another reserve of gypsum, expected to yield half a million tons, was found next to the first gypsum find.

The source also said that the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), which initially surveyed the site, found that gypsum was available in huge quantities at Malih area, south of Amman. After the first survey, the NRA conducted exploratory research in

the area extending from the northern part of Wadi Al Hassa to the south of Nimta village where gypsum was discovered in large quantities.

A technical team from the NRA conducted mining tests which proved that there were sufficient reserves of gypsum to supply the South Cement Factory for the coming ten years. The Jordan Times contacted a number of NRA officials who declined to

comment on the latest gypsum find.

Gypsum, a widely distributed mineral, has the chemical composition $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and consists of hydrous calcium sulphate. Gypsum is used especially as a soil additive and in making plaster of paris and plaster casts used in medical treatment of bone damages.

Informed sources from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources said that gypsum had already been found in the south and that it was discovered to be of very high quality. The source added that the existing gypsum quarries are used by a local gypsum factory located in the Baqa'a area. This factory converts the gypsum into building material in the form of plaster slates used for building materials and decorative purposes.

Royal Decree endorses amendments to articles in 1969 Passport Law

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has endorsed amendments law to the Jordanian Passport Law. The new amendments stipulate changes in the following articles: Article (1) — The new law is called an amended law to the passport law for the year 1985 and it is considered as law number two for the year 1969, which is the original law.

Article (2) — The context of article number (7) of the original law is changed with the following text: Article (7) A — A diplomatic passport is issued to members of the Royal Family, the prime minister, speakers of the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament, current ministers and previous cabinet members, previous and current chiefs of the Royal Court and court ministers, the chief chamberlain, the Royal doctor, the Royal Court secretary general, the first secretary, chief of Royal protocol, and the upper posts of the Royal Court staff. Second and third grade posts can obtain diplomatic passports upon the recommendation of the chief of the Royal Court and after the approval of the premier.

Political passports are also issued to the Armed Forces commander-in-chief, chief of staff, the public security director, the general intelligence and civil defence directors, foreign ministry staff from plenipotentiary minister and in the embassies as from attaché and above. Attaches of Jordanian embassies abroad who are not from the foreign ministry staff, Jordanians working in international organisations at political posts on the condition that they are working via government recommendations and any ordinary citizen can obtain a diplomatic passport after the endorsement of the premier and recommendations from the ministers of interior and foreign affairs if the citizen is civilian and after the approval of the commander-in-chief if he is military recruited, provided that the premier has the right to take back the passport at any time.

Article (7) B — A diplomat's wife who has a diplomatic passport has the right to obtain an independent diplomatic passport and their children can be included in the special passport provided that they are excluded after they reach 16 years of age.

Article (7) C — The validity of a diplomatic passport is two years, and can be renewed for another two years provided that the passport working term does not exceed four years, after which a new passport is issued. The issuance and renewal of diplomatic passports are free of charge.

Article (7) D — A diplomatic passport is taken back after expiring the official capacity for which it was issued.

Article (3) Amending Article (10) of the original law adding the following text by the end of item (A): "An ordinary passport shall not be issued or renewed at Jordanian embassies, consulates or diplomatic missions abroad except after the approval of special authorities defined by the minister of interior."

Egypt urges positive response to accord

(Continued from page 1)

step... the essence of this step is that Jordan and the PLO have chosen the option of peace without reservation."

Mr. Mubarak said it was wrong to ask Arabs or Israel for new concessions before talks start. "It is illogical that a party should give unilateral concessions before the start of the negotiations," he said.

He did not elaborate, but citing points include Israeli and U.S. insistence that the PLO should explicitly accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, calling for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land in return for recognition and peace.

its effort to revive the peace process.

Later, Mr. Mubarak told reporters that PLO participation in any negotiations was essential.

"Let us live in reality and be practical. We cannot reach a solution without the PLO," Mr. Mubarak said after a meeting with his senior political advisers.

"My intention is to help the Palestinians, the PLO and the Jordanians to reach a comprehensive settlement," he added.

Mr. Mubarak said he would continue contacts with the PLO to find out "what will be acceptable" to them.

Egyptian foreign affairs adviser Osama Al Baz on Sunday echoed his country's wishes that the United States play a greater role in Middle East peace efforts, while Israeli cabinet minister Ezer Weizman said a U.S. role in the process is not necessary.

"I strongly prefer myself... that direct talks between us and Egypt, and direct talks between us and Jordan, are far more advisable than having a mediator," Mr. Weizman said on the American ABC Television programme "This Week" with David Brinkley.

Mr. Mubarak said, despite obstacles, Egypt would not abandon

"If there are stumbling blocks, and an outside mediator like the United States can help, they're always welcome. I would rather sit with Arab leaders around us, as we used to say... eyeball to eyeball."

Mr. Weizman said the Soviets did not take part in the separate Israel-Egypt Camp David accords, and he sees no role for them in current negotiations.

Dr. Baz, interviewed separately on the same show, said Mr. Mubarak plans to ask the United States to take a prominent role in Middle East negotiations during his visit later this month.

He said the U.S. needs to explore how far the PLO is willing to go in its negotiations, and to find out whether Palestinians are willing to recognise Israel and under what conditions.

Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam, appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press," said the United States does not believe the time is right for a major U.S. initiative, adding:

"What we do believe is that the activity is good and positive. But it's not clear yet that the parties are willing to engage in direct negotiations."

Time is running out for Jordan's remaining flora, fauna

By Josephine Zananiri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One tourist guide to Jordan of the 1930s invited the traveller to visit the fields of black irises at Jiza: now none can be found. Similarly, the delicate blue irises are disappearing fast from Abdoun. The dozens of indigenous flowers of Jordan, incidentally the parent stock of so many European garden specialties, not only enrich our lives each Spring but could well entice tourists to Jordan.

Numbering over 1,800 species, the flowers of Jordan are as numerous and intriguing as her geographical parts. Architect and artist Jan Calix undertook to illustrate and catalogue many natives. Sadly his delicate water colours were not published and remain largely unavailable to the public.

Three elements contributed to the declining numbers of wild flowers: overgrazing of stock, expanding agriculture, and advancing urbanization. Depletion certainly results from both overgrazing and ploughing, however survival of the

delicate indigenous blooms is impossible once the suburb arrives. Bulldozers churn over the top soil, house and cement cover the land and the only flowers permitted by the householders are the cultivated, imported models from Europe.

Disappearing animals

Jordan's animals have also fallen victim to ecological pattern changes. Overgrazing by goats and camels, the depletion of Jordanian forests to fuel the Hijazi railway and the introduction of modern firearms for hunting all ensured the doom of many beautiful species here. The Roe Deer, the Addax Antelope and the Syrian Bear were extinct by the turn of the century. The Wild Ass and Cheetah soon followed and of the thousands of gazelles only a few scattered herds remain.

Today's existing mammals include such unprepossessing beasts as jackals, hyenas, badgers, jerboas and various sand rats and mice. Attempts have been made by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) to both re-introduce and protect indigenous animals and wild life reserves have been established near Shaumari, Petra and Wadi Rum.

Jordan's birds like her animals have fallen prey to the hunters' gun. There are an estimated 300 birds native to Jordan. Some have managed to integrate themselves into urban life, such as the Palestinian Sun Bird. Others are desert dwellers. The Sand Grouse, for example, flies vast distances for water and carries the precious liquid to its young on its belly feathers. Other desert birds stand over their eggs shading them from the intense heat of the sun's rays. One species extinct, a victim of the Jordanian hunter, is the Syrian Ostrich.

Although Jordan's indigenous birds appear to be surviving the upsurges of the Twentieth Century, the future of thousands of migratory birds could be altered forever by the discovery of oil at Azrak. On their long flight from Eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R. to Africa, the only permanent source of water in their journey across the desert is at Azrak. At the peak of the migratory season some 200,000 birds can be seen in the area: ducks, herons, egrets, plovers, sandpipers, gulls and terns.

Whether they and the indigenous birds of Azrak can co-exist with man, his machines, and urban development remains doubtful.



The varied and beautiful coral reefs in the Gulf of Aqaba are very sensitive to pollution and may be threatened by chemical pollution of the sea and effluent discharge (J.T. file photo).

conservation and it is predicted that poly-urethane imports will be restricted as tests show the lethal nature of its combustible gases.

Conservation

Underwater life

The magnificent underwater life of Aqaba — brilliantly coloured coral reef and the superb coral reef are also threatened. Although collection of coral and spear fishing are banned, drastic change is resulting from both chemical pollution of the sea and thermal changes brought about by the discharging of effluents plus the ever encroaching urbanization of Aqaba.

Jordan's flora and fauna are not only affected by man's ever-widening use of the countryside but also by his pollution of it. Jordan's water resources are not plentiful and their pollution has been seriously dealt with. Two incidents, could be noted — the much publicised Zarka River which was shown on Jordan Television with actual colour changes depending on the factory whose effluent was being slushed into the water and the mercury poisoning of the King Talal Dam.

Both incidents were acted upon quickly, with the Zarka River being cleaned and the dam closed down. Similarly, consumer protection is taken seriously here: an asbestos factory was shut down after international findings showed the substance to be carcinogenic.

Conservation of resources is a matter of looking ahead at needs and limiting present lifestyle to an existing ecological pattern. Jordanians will then have to learn some restrictions. Financial restraints will teach the lesson of energy efficiency. But what of land usage? Future generations may desperately need land which is so recklessly built upon today and certainly if a balance is to be maintained between urban and rural a new urban philosophy must be thought out.

Reserves, commendable though they are, represent a kind of animal Bantustan and do not give the right to people to slaughter birds and animals not on the reserve. Similarly, the dilemma of Aqaba's development must strike a balance with the survival of the underwater world there.

Jordanian citizens may well have to re-think the whole style of the Friday drive. They do not have the right to tour into the countryside, leave piles of generally non-biodegradable litter, pollute water resources and randomly shoot at birds and animals. This is neither responsive to today's needs and certainly ignorant of tomorrow's.



The wild oryx, once native and abundant in Jordan, can now only be seen in the Shaumari wildlife reserve (J.T. file photo).

11 die, 40 injured in Maarake blast

(Continued from page 1)

there were no IDF (Israeli Defence Force) troops active in the Maarake area Monday.

Reuters photographer Frederic Neuma said he saw dozens of ball bearings from the bomb in the wreckage of the Husseiniyeh.

Villagers, in a state of shock, wandered aimlessly in the streets or stood motionless in doorways as U.N. and Red Cross rescuers worked to free victims from the rubble.

Jaber, an 18-year-old man wounded in the head, said: "This will increase our resistance. We are all ready to carry out suicide missions in revenge for this."

The Lebanese command, meanwhile, said an Israeli patrol advanced at 3 a.m. (0100 GMT) Monday to within 200 metres of a Lebanese army outpost east of the village of Zrariye near the Israeli occupation zone and fired two grenades above the position.

"Lebanese troops opened fire in the direction of the Israeli patrol and forced it to retreat," the communiqué said. It made no mention of casualties.

Sunday's explosion followed three grenade and gun attacks on Israeli troops in South Lebanon overnight.

Heavy smoke poured from Israeli's liaison centre in the town of Nabatiyeh after an attack by resistance men using rocket launchers and automatic weapons, security sources said.

They also reported a 20-minute gunbattle at an Israeli stronghold near a position just north of Tyre and another near the village of Badia, three kilometres further east, came under rocket and rifle fire.

A Lebanese man was found shot dead near Badia, they said, but there was no further word on casualties. Israeli military sources said Sunday night Israeli troops killed a fighter after an Israeli patrol was ambushed near the village.

In Israel's most northern town of Metulla, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin Monday reiterated that Israel will respond when its soldiers are attacked.

Mr. Rabin said it would take about two or three months to pull back troops from Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley in the second phase of an Israeli withdrawal approved by the cabinet Sunday (See page 2).

The defence minister said he hoped the third and final stage of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon would be completed by the end of the summer.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Changing the price

THE UNITED STATES has said that it is ready to "re-engage" in the Middle East peace process in any way the Arabs and Israelis think appropriate. It is hard to determine if this should be viewed as good news, or as good cause to fear what is to come next. The Arab states — well, most of the Arab states, anyway — waste no opportunity to call on the United States to be more involved in the Middle East peace-making effort, which seems to be a perpetual thing. But when the United States gets involved more directly in the region, we complain that it is too biased towards Israel.

So, what do the Arabs want from the United States? This would appear to be a good time to answer this question. The fact remains, there is no single answer that covers all the Arab states. For one thing, it is problematic that the Arab man-in-the-street has never had a real opportunity to express his feelings about the appropriate state of Arab-American ties. For another Arab governments have often conflicting attitudes — on the one hand decrying American support for Israel, while on the other asking for American arms, technology, education, and wheat, along with an enhanced American role in peace-making.

Our feeling is that the Americans have more or less proved themselves unable and/or unwilling to play an impartial role in the area, given their clearly expressed policy of putting Israeli security and military superiority over the Arabs as the number one fact around which all other political dynamics in the area have to rotate. The political price to the American leadership of shifting into a more balanced policy that seeks security and statehood for both Israelis and Palestinians is far too high for any American administration to pay. This, at least, is the lesson of recent history.

The question then becomes: Can the Arabs lower that price? Can we take political action that would give the American administration good cause to become even-handed? Would it make any difference in the end? One thinks that such questions should be debated widely and openly in the Arab World right about now. The fact that they are not is a shocking reminder of the sad state of domestic Arab politics.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Peaceable Arabs vs. self-interested Israel

AS THE Arabs continue to work for peace and try to rally support by world nations for their peaceful plans to settle the Palestine problem, the Zionists continue to pursue efforts aimed at uprooting the Palestinian population from their land. By turning out the Arabs from their lands and confiscating their property, the Israelis are making it more difficult for peace negotiations, and by building settlements on these lands they hope to make it impossible for Arabs to regain their property at all.

The present labour-led coalition in Israel is working secretly to achieve this goal. Since it came to power, the government of Shimon Peres embarked on confiscating Arab land, sealing off Arab agricultural land and causing the Arabs to turn away from farming and to settle inside cities where they would be needing work in factories owned and controlled by the enemy. By depriving the Arabs from their lands and forcing them to do labour at their factories, the Israelis have succeeded in closing the door completely in the face of all peace opportunities and negotiations.

However, all these settlement programmes and plans require huge sums of money which Israel does not possess but receives from the U.S., which assists Israel to achieve its goals.

Al Dustour: When Israel panics

ISRAEL HAS just announced its plan to carry out its second phase of withdrawal from Lebanon which will take place in three months' time. With this announcement, the Arabs' self-confidence in their ability to inflict defeat on the Israeli invaders has been enhanced and their aspiration for liberating their invaded lands strengthened.

The Israeli military power, which has tasted defeat at the hands of resistance fighters in South Lebanon, could after all be defeated by the Arabs if they got the will and determination to do it. The Israelis seemed to be strong when the Arabs looked so weak and divided, but Israel's strength and power seem impotent in the face of determination, sacrifice and continued struggle by the oppressed people.

A few months after the invasion began, the Israelis found themselves bogged down in Lebanon, unable to achieve their objectives; and now they find themselves retreating with shame and defeat. The invasion gave the Israelis a lesson and denied them the objective of safeguarding their northern settlements against resistance attacks. The Arabs should also take a lesson and should realise that great heroic deeds which they had learnt from books and read about in history are after all materialising and are bearing fruit in Lebanon.

Sawt Al Shaab: Lacking inter-Arab coordination

THE JOINT Jordanian-Palestinian accord signed in Amman on Feb. 11 has paved the ground for a wider Arab diplomatic offensive designed to reactivate efforts for settling the Palestine issue. For this reason, Jordan has been keen on calling for Arab summit meeting that should tackle problems plaguing the Arab World and remove differences among their Arab governments. Once the Arabs are united again, they can work out a joint strategy that would influence world nations and play a more active role in the international arena.

The divisions that have prevailed in the Arab World in the past had presented a vague plan to the world and had obstructed all moves for solving the Palestine problem. Egypt has of late proposed new ideas for reactivating the efforts for peace and for convening an international conference to help end the Arab-Israeli conflict. But these proposals came outside the framework of inter-Arab coordination and so the U.S. and Israel had a chance of distorting the proposals with a view to aborting the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and eventually sowing seeds of disunion among Arab countries and deepening divisions among their governments.

The Jordanian-Palestinian accord was crystal clear and its call for the fulfilment of peace through an international conference and under U.N. auspices was provided for in a firm and determined manner that does not leave room for manipulation or manoeuvre. We want a summit to work out a common strategy that would support the Feb. 11 accord and give further momentum for peace.

Like the rains, better late than never

By Rami G. Khouri

THE JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN agreement on a joint diplomatic strategy to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict through negotiations seems to me substantively sensible, and politically bold. But the manner in which it has been presented to the world has been disappointing. My view is that a good agreement was badly and unnecessarily hampered from the start by a failure of information and creative public diplomacy.

The accord is a good step forward in the march towards moderation by the PLO, and towards a more realistic, practical appreciation of what is diplomatically possible by most of the Arab states. It is an expression of a willingness to make peace with Israel, to negotiate, to coexist, and to live happily ever after in the Holy Land — but only if Israel reciprocates these noble sentiments, accepts to withdraw from all the occupied territories, and live side-by-side with a confederation of Palestinian-Jordanian states.

The accord is impressive because it offers a vision of peace while remaining faithful to pan-Arab positions that were adopted at the 1982 Fez summit, and to Palestine National Council resolutions reaffirmed most recently at the November 1984 PNC meeting in Amman. The accord offers peace, while demanding reciprocity from Israel. It offers

concessions, but only on a mutual basis. It is founded on moderation, but one that can only be activated by a reciprocal Israeli expression of moderation.

I like the conditionality that is built into the agreement. It spells out our concessions and compromises, but demands in return similar changes in Israeli positions. It is an eminently fair and reasonable approach to peace that should gain widespread international support. More importantly, it should be of interest to peace and compromise-oriented groups within Israel.

I am struck by how fast the PLO-Jordan accord has caused the two halves of the Israeli coalition government to speak so differently about the prospects for peace. Mr. Peres and his people have responded with a relatively open mind, and a willingness to study proposals and see what openings may exist for meaningful peace talks. Mr. Shamir and his people have poured cold water on the Jordan-PLO accord and on the flurry of proposals from Egyptian President Mubarak. This is a trend the Arabs should exploit.

Imagine what might have happened if the Jordan-PLO accord had been presented to a) the Jordanian and Palestinian people, b) the Arabs, c) Israeli public opinion and d) the rest of the world, in a more dynamic and politically com-

peting manner. I think the present atmosphere of ambiguity, and even some disagreement on different aspects of the accord, stems directly from how the accord was launched into the world.

The accord was first announced in a two-line statement issued by Petra, the Jordanian News Agency, that was characterised by a lack of substance and details. It was initially largely dismissed by most interested people as simply another collection of nice words. A few days later, as more information leaked out from assorted sources, in Jordan, Syria, Kuwait and Israel, the marketplace was characterised by confusion, ambiguity, hesitancy and ignorance about the precise details of the accord.

After nearly nine days of this, the PLO Executive Committee met in Tunis, accepted the agreement, and issued a statement that seemed to ask for clarifications on several points. A few days later, the text of the accord was released in Jordan. This was followed by individual statements supporting and criticising the accord, including statements by several prominent PLO leaders. The marketplace was further confused by all this — not to mention also by the gusher of ideas that suddenly flowed out of the fountain of diplomacy in Cairo.

I can understand the amb-

iguity surrounding the Egyptian proposals. Whether Jordan, the PLO or other Arab parties support or reject the Egyptian proposals, some may want to withhold comment to see if Egypt can win any flexibility or concessions from Israel and the United States. Fair enough.

But I cannot for the life of me understand why this constructive and politically forward-looking and attractive accord should have been hampered from its birth by such an inefficient, confusing and unprofessional policy of information and explanation.

Specifically, I would urge Jordanian and PLO officials to consider the following points in hindsight: Why was the initial two-line statement issued without any other substance to it? Why was it initially issued at all, if the accord still had to be officially approved by the PLO Executive Committee? Why did the PLO Executive Committee issue its public statement on Feb. 19, instead of communicating privately to Jordan that the accord was approved and asking for clarifications? Why did Jordan unilaterally issue the text of the agreement a few days later, prompting criticisms by some PLO senior officials, including a statement by Yasser Arafat himself just three days ago that there are differences of interpretation by Jordan and the

PLO on the meaning of a "joint delegation" to an international peace conference under United Nations auspices?

These are all procedural points, but they have detracted from the substantive importance of the accord. If there were subtle differences in interpretation of some parts of the accord by Jordanian and Palestinian officials, such differences should have been ironed out in private talks before the initial announcement of agreement, and certainly before releasing the text of the accord.

I would also suggest that the meaning of the accord should have been spelled out far more emphatically in public by both Jordanian and Palestinian officials. This accord is designed to reactivate a dormant Arab diplomatic effort to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict through peaceful negotiations. It talks about direct negotiations with Israel in a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference. It is based on the Fez plan and United Nations resolutions, which in turn talk about a peace in which the security of all states in the region is guaranteed.

These are powerful political cards in the Arab hand, but they are being played in a confused and at times dishevelled manner. This only allows potential supporters in the West and internationally to hold back, while reinforcing the

arguments of Israelis who are only looking for reasons to ignore Arab peace overtures.

I am convinced that the accord is a good one, and can be used convincingly to strengthen the hands of more reasonable Israelis who are willing, and perhaps even anxious, to discuss serious peace possibilities with the Arabs. This accord should be used as powerful political ammunition to address those in the West and in Israel who are willing, as we are, to probe genuine opportunities for a fair and balanced peace.

I fear that little of this has happened, largely because of the way the public expression of the accord has been mishandled to date. By developing more public understanding of, and support for, the accord among Jordanians and Palestinians, North Americans and Europeans, and Israelis, the landscape of public opinion could be much more conducive to prodding a more enthusiastic attitude by politicians in Israel, North America and Western Europe.

All of this can still be done, but it requires a degree of diplomatic dynamism and sophistication in public information policies that could match the positive political content of the Jordan-PLO accord itself. Let us hope that, like this year's rains, it will still come, even if late.

Partyless poll and orderly transfer of power in Pakistan

The following article by Shahid Akhtar on the recent national and provincial elections in Pakistan is an official press release reflecting the Pakistani government's view on the issue.

THE GENERAL elections held in Pakistan last week marked an important step towards the establishment of genuine Islamic democracy in the country. The "partyless" polls have been critically analysed by several observers but few have been able to make a realistic appreciation of the conditions which necessitated holding the elections on non-party basis. It has been pointed out, for example, that political systems functioning in various parts of the world are based on party system and that political organisation of society today is not possible without parties.

The adverse criticism of non-party polls seems to have its basis in the attitude that anything having no precedent in the Western theory or practice has little merit. As a matter of fact, the West has its own political ethos and psyche which are different from those of the East, particularly the Muslim societies. The West's dominant political culture has evolved from its peculiar historical context. The most important feature of its political evolution is the cleavage between the temporal and the spiritual, between church and state.

Politics has been divorced from religion and given a totally mundane orientation.

This dichotomy finds expression in the party system. Various parties active in the field operate as rivals, having permanent confrontation with each other. Their competition is not only political but also ideological. They stand, in many cases, for diametrically opposed ways of life.

This represents a complete antithesis of the way of life prescribed by Islam. Islam recommends harmony instead of conflict, cooperation instead of confrontation. It has a holistic view of life: Body and soul complement each other and go together. The spiritual and material aspects of life cannot be divorced from each other.

Since Islam sees life as a harmonious whole, it expects of its various constituent units to cooperate with, instead of confront, each other. In an Islamic set-up, the party system which envisages a partisan approach to society's problems is automatically out.

The "partyless" polls were thus in conformity with the Islamic spirit of a non-partisan collective approach to society's problems. The party system negates the principle of unity of ummah enunciated by Islam. Islam does not permit differences of opinion on the fundamentals — the ideological basis of society. The basic principles have been laid down in the Holy Quran which are meant for over-all guidance.

The way the campaign for the recent polls in Pakistan was conducted illustrated the soundness of the Islamic approach. It helped the country avoid the divisive party politics and all the problems it entails.

Party-based elections, especially in the "Third World" countries, have been notoriously easy to manoeuvre from abroad. Financial support from interested agencies outside the country seriously influences election results, affecting political standing of the parties in the parliament.

The sudden appreciation in the market exchange rate of Pak rupee in comparison with official rate of exchange few weeks before the elections was a clear evidence of such external influence peddling. The "partyless" elections were the best answer to this challenge.

Again, it was because of the absence of party politics that the election campaign was free from acrimony and mud-slinging. It was no longer a no-holds-barred situation. In party elections, the candidates are chosen by the party leadership which gives more importance to a candidate's loyalty and his contribution to party funds than to his suitability. However, in the "partyless" polls, apart from the professional politicians, a large number of devoted social workers, talented professionals and patriotic elements enter the electoral field. The new parliament will thus be a more representative body capable of evolving a more balanced and responsible approach towards national and international issues.

Zia shakes political optimism of many

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

ISLAMABAD — Military ruler Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq has severely shaken the political optimism of many Pakistanis by announcing constitutional amendments that will keep power firmly in his own hands after the end of martial law.

Gen. Zia, giving his first speech since last week's national and provincial elections, gave away little to Pakistan's newly-elected legislative representatives in redefining the distribution of powers between president and parliament.

Instead, his television address Saturday night went even further than expected in laying down the principle of presidential control over the federal and provincial governments.

The amendments to the suspended 1973 constitution set the guidelines for the civilian government that will take over when martial law is lifted in stages this year.

Gen. Zia, who has ruled under martial law since overthrowing the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977, assured himself of five more years as president last December through a snap referendum tarnished by disorderly voting and charges of widespread rigging.

could not veto its bills but only But last week he held polls so free of obvious manipulation and disorder that many Pakistanis began hoping the promised sharing or transfer of power was actually beginning.

The sight of five cabinet ministers, a pro-Zia religious party and many pro-government politicians crashing to defeat prompted eager speculation about who the new prime minister would be and how much the National Assembly members would speak out.

Issues as important as the pre-election arrest of hundreds of dissidents, including almost all known political leaders, nearly evaporated as the focus shifted to the new crop of politicians coming to Islamabad for the March 23 opening of parliament.

"He burst that bubble quite effectively," said one veteran political analyst referring to the optimism of those seeking a new distribution of power.

"The legislators have been defanged and the prime minister has been made into a ceremonial office-holder."

One Western diplomat said Gen. Zia, after studying the makeup of the National Assembly, appeared to have balked at the prospect of giving too much power to what could be an unwieldy body of 237 members.

added. "We figure there will be 30 to 40 members in there who will emerge as an active and vocal 'opposition,'" he said of the assembly elected in polls barred to the outlawed political parties.

Gen. Zia first announced in August 1983 that he planned to amend the constitution and said he was considering shifting many powers from the prime minister to the president.

Since then, he has dropped confusing and sometimes contradictory hints, the latest being that he wanted only a marginal enhancement of the president's powers and would leave the actual work of governing to his prime minister.

He nurtured this illusion by actively wooing Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a leading figure in the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and acting head of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

Mr. Jatoi would have demanded real powers if he had accepted the post of prime minister but he refused and supported the MRD election boycott call. He was arrested before the poll.

As Gen. Zia outlined the amendments in his latest speech, it emerged that the only clear concession to the National Assembly was a promise that the president

send them back once for reconsideration.

He said the assembly could repeal his amendments, but only with some support from the provincial assemblies which in effect complicated an already laborious process.

Gen. Zia, whose indirect election in the referendum would also be enshrined in the constitution, will appoint the prime minister, his cabinet, the heads of the armed forces and the four provincial governors.

His influence will also reach down to second-level appointments such as those of ministers of state and advisers in Islamabad and chief ministers in the provinces.

He will be able to dissolve parliament if it clashes with him or call a referendum on an issue of national importance to break a legislative deadlock over it.

His National Security Council, which critics feared would be a powerful army-led body like its Turkish namesake, will be only an advisory council to assist him in a national crisis.

One diplomat said it looked like a new version of the group of generals Gen. Zia now consults before meeting his civilian cabinet.

"It will have civilian members, but all the important military men will be there," the diplomat

LETTERS

Unfounded accusations

To the Editor

The Jordan Times on Monday, March 4, 1985 published a Guest Column article under the heading "UNRWA is not fighting enough for funds", written by Fakhri Ka'war.

Regrettably it seems that the writer of the article, as some of his colleagues in another daily in Jordan, has not taken the trouble to contact any authoritative source within UNRWA but has relied mainly on hearsay and on inaccurate statements given over the past months specifically in one daily newspaper in Jordan. I do not know which "informed sources" Mr. Ka'war is referring to, but they are in any case not very accurately informed.

Had they been so, they would not have told Mr. Ka'war that "UNRWA's health services and hospitalisation were completely terminated in Jordan some four years ago".

The truth, easy to obtain at UNRWA's Field Office in Amman, is that in Jordan alone UNRWA runs 16 health centres or health points, receiving more than half a million patients every year. UNRWA also runs a number of mother-child health care centres, school health teams, dental clinics etc. UNRWA has embarked on an ambitious scheme of community nursing and UNRWA operates an environmental sanitation programme in refugee camps with 312 employees.

Hospitalisation of eligible registered refugees was subsidised with \$270,366 in 1984 only. Presently UNRWA and the Ministry of Health negotiate a specific hospitalisation agreement.

Had Mr. Ka'war contacted the UNRWA Field Office he might not have stated that "at least 50 students are cramped into a small classroom at present, whereas the number was far less only two years ago". He would have been given the exact measurements of all classrooms, the number of students in each classroom and he would have found that his statement has little to do with reality. Had Mr. Ka'war paid a visit to UNRWA's Field Office, he would have been invited to see all our records and statements then, at least based on facts, have not written about "the pretext of having a deficit".

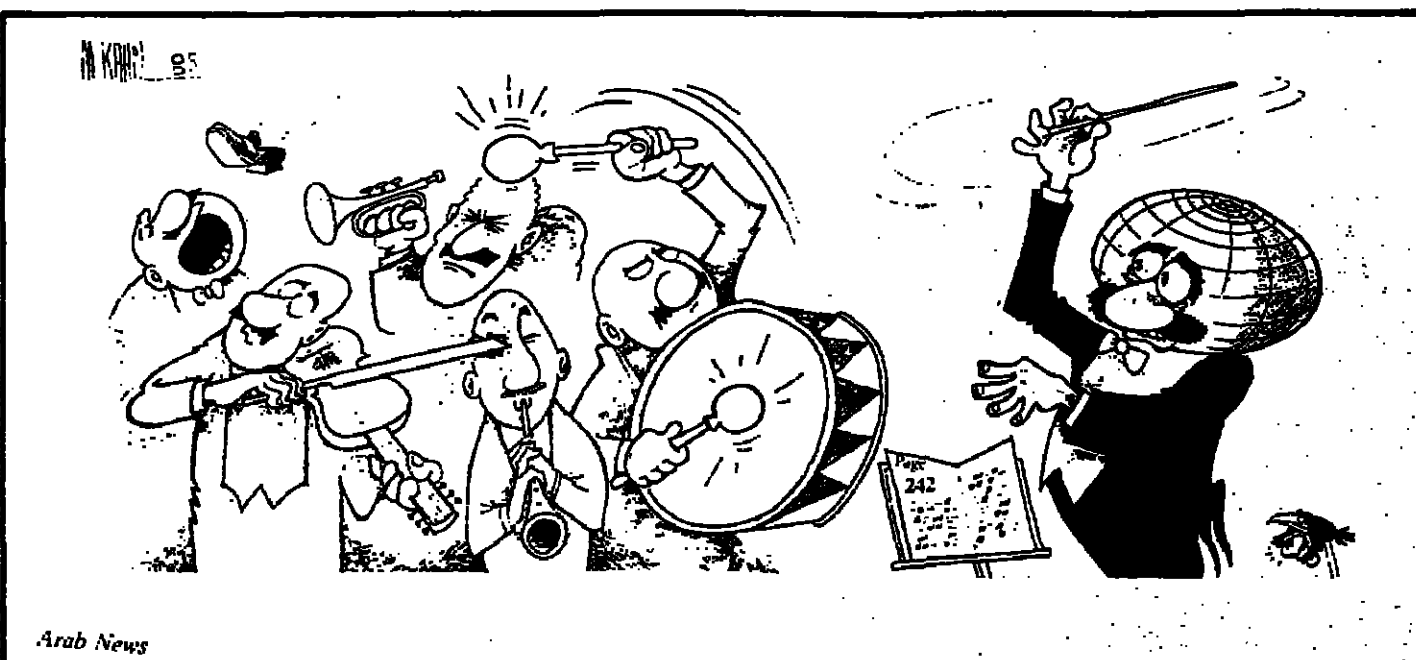
Mr. Ka'war is most obviously not aware that UNRWA is totally dependant on voluntary contributions for its activities. UNRWA does not live a life of its own.

UNRWA does not participate in any "schemes", "plots" or deliberate "process of reducing its services". These are political slogans, which do more harm to Palestine refugees than may be understood by those who spread them.

UNRWA's Commissioner-General and field office directors are most concerned about the present financial situation, which prevents them from offering the quantity and the quality of services, which they consider justified and necessary. That is why a Office Director and his staff, including the Jordan Field raising efforts to secure that, also in the future, UNRWA should be able to continue its services within education, health and welfare to eligible registered refugees.

Most of the agency's Palestinian staff, the vast majority of all UNRWA employees, are doing their best to contribute to these efforts. It is neither easy nor rewarding, as their efforts are greatly aggravated by the campaigns, based on mis-information, rumours and "wild" accusations which are from time to time launched against the agency.

P.O. Hallqvist,
Director of UNRWA affairs,
Amman



Self is I

Site in Syria yields ancient palace, types of script that led to writing

By Donald J. Frederick

WASHINGTON — Two clay tablets more than 5,000 years old, showing examples of a pictographic script that led to cuneiform writing, have been found at Tell Brak, an ancient site in northeastern Syria.

"They are unique and represent the earliest examples of a sort of communication that led to the cuneiform script and hence to writing as it is known today," says David Oates, the University of London archaeologist who led the expedition that discovered the tablets.

One tablet holds a drawing of a sheep, the other a goat. Both contain a circular hole-like depression denoting the number 10.

Palace crowns mound

Excavating near the top of the 150-foot-high mound at Tell Brak, Prof. Oates also found some important things from a later millennium — the remains of a Mitanni palace and throne room. On the ground floor of the building were two cuneiform tablets.

The founders of the Mitanni kingdom were Indo-Italians from the northeast, one of several groups

that overran Mesopotamia between 1700 and 1500 B.C. By 1400 B.C., the Mitanni ruled an empire that controlled Assyria and rivaled the Hittites. It extended across the northern plain that today is Syria and Iraq.

"Up until now neither a Mitanni city nor royal residence has ever been found," says Prof. Oates. "To find both, complete with a royal tablet, is quite extraordinary."

The royal tablet records a legal decision made in the court of Artashumura, the Mitanni king, and contains his seal.

Commenting on the early pictographs, Prof. Oates notes that similar but more stylized works showing just the heads of animals have previously been found in Uruk, an early Sumerian city in southern Mesopotamia.

"These two new finds are not only the first discovered in northern Mesopotamia," says Prof. Oates, "but they seem to be older because they show the whole animal instead of the more sophisticated versions from Uruk that showed only the heads."

The first pictographic signs, which were developed well before 3000 B.C., were scratched in damp clay. The Sumerian scribes used sharpened reeds, the resulting tablets were used mainly in

trading. For instance, when a person shipped 10 heads of sheep or cattle, he sent a crude bill of sale in clay with a pictographic symbol for cattle or sheep plus a sign for the number 10. The buyer responded with a similar receipt.

Keeping tabs on taxes

Thus, ancient businessmen and the inevitable tax collectors could maintain their ledgers.

By 2500 B.C., Sumerian scribes had devised a more efficient script. A stylus with a blunt triangular tip could be manipulated to make cuneiform, or wedge-shaped, impressions in rapid succession. Clusters of such marks formed characters that were based on pictographs. The characters grew increasingly abstract.

When an unknown genius realized that the signs could also represent sounds, the art of writing was born.

The Sumerians were probably the world's first city dwellers. They founded numerous cities and towns that were nourished by the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and their tributaries.

After a city was destroyed by a pillaging army, the population tended to rebuild on the ruins because the water supply was nearby.

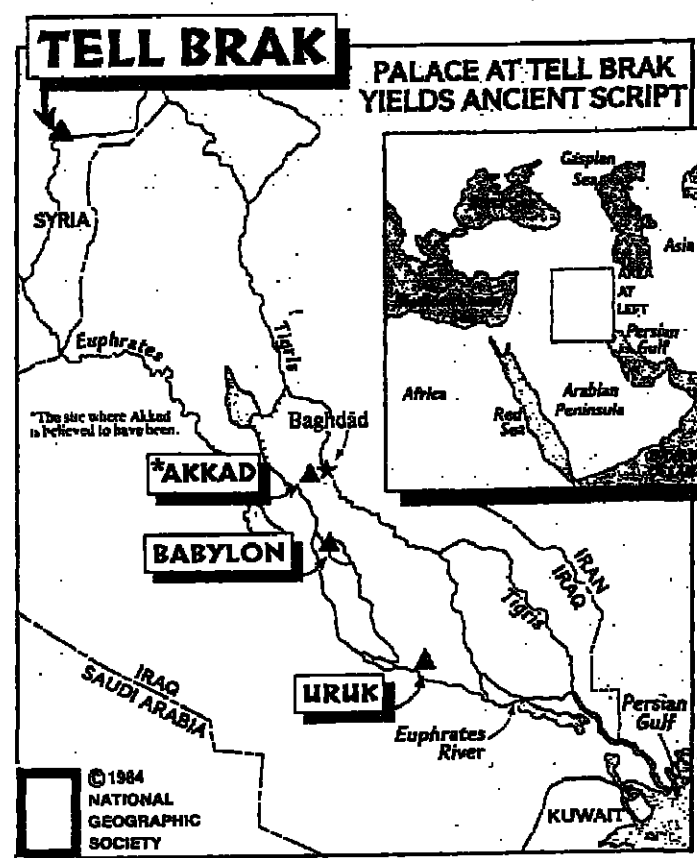
Excavating a tell — a large mound covering the ruin of a city — is like sifting through layers of history. Each stratum with its embedded trove of artifacts offers a glimpse of events from one catastrophe to the next.

Brak, whose central mound covers more than 80 acres, is a good example. Prof. Oates believes people were attracted to the place as early as 6000 B.C., but that it experienced its first flowering as a commercial and religious center about 2,000 years later.

Excavated some time ago, the "Eye Temple," one of the buildings from this period, yielded thousands of small plaques fashioned in human form with exaggerated eyes. Most of the plaques are incised, but in a few cases — called "spectacle idols" — the eye sockets are pierced. Prof. Oates recently found one of these in the ruins of a house near the temple.

Controlled trade route

In another level of the tell, Prof. Oates found a decorated copper as and "business ring" dating from about 2250 B.C., a time when the city served as a provincial capital of the first Mesopotamian Empire



and was ruled by kings in Akkad. A metal-working center at the time, Brak also controlled a major copper trade route from eastern Anatolia to southern Mesopotamia.

Besides the artifacts, Prof. Oates discovered private houses and two major public buildings dating from the Akkad period. Soon he hopes to find written archives that will shed new light on the period.

The period that surrounded Brak for centuries didn't bring about its downfall, however. Weather and climate accomplished what conquering armies never could — the total abandonment of the site. A prolonged drought forced people from the fields. The city eventually was abandoned. By about 1300 B.C., bedouin herders claimed the precincts where royal decrees had once been issued — National Geographic feature.

Britain's longest strike leaves bitter legacy

By Alexander Maxey
Retired

LONDON — The desperate struggle of British coalminers to prevent the contraction of their industry produced the longest major strike in British industrial history.

It polarised political life in the country, divided the miners themselves and demonstrated the relative impotence — or unwillingness — of a labour movement in decline to risk its neck for a brother union.

It put entire communities on the breadline for almost a year, partly dependent for food and clothes on an international relief operation organised like a "Third World" famine appeal.

The nation watched nightly clashes between riot police and picketers and the normally well-liked British police came out to perform what many themselves saw resentfully as a political role.

Critics of the Marxist Arthur Scargill saw him as itching for a fight with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government from the day he won the presidency of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in 1981.

Her critics said she provoked the showdown by putting the National Coal Board (NCB) in the hands of American banker Ian MacGregor, a man reviled by organised labour as the butcher of state-owned British Steel, where he halved the work force.

The result, as with the great miners' strike of 1926, appears to be a labour movement further enfeebled and a legacy of bitterness between miners who stayed out and those — in the end, more than half of the 186,000 men who broke the strike.

It is a result very different from that of 1974 when the last miners' strike brought down Edward Heath's Conservative government and won a huge new programme of investment in coal.

The crunch came last March, with annual losses running at \$75 million sterling (\$970 million) and 28 announced pit closures in one year alone, a rate not seen since the 1960s.

The spark was an NCB plan to shut two pits in Yorkshire, the biggest coalfield. On March 5, its miners called a strike.

A day later Mr. MacGregor called in Mr. Scargill and presented him with what he intended as a fait accompli: Annual output to be cut from 101 to 97 million tonnes with at least 20 of 176 pits to close and 20,000 job losses, all voluntary with big payoffs.

Mr. Scargill left the meeting in stunned silence.

The issue united the majority of Britain's miners, already embittered in a five-month-old over-

time ban over pay, and an NUM national conference voted for an all-out strike.

But Mr. Scargill rebuffed three times in as many years in ballots on a strike, baulked at the idea of a national vote. As a result several coalfields refused to come out.

Mr. Scargill nonetheless confidently predicted a national crisis and power blackouts within months. They never came.

For the Conservative Party, it emerged in the dying months of the dispute, had planned back in 1978 for just such a threat. When the stoppage began, coal stocks stood at an all-time high.

And the strike was weakened from within. Around 40,000 miners never joined the strike and pit supervisors who could have shut the industry at a stroke settled with the NCB. About one third of Britain's coal production was kept going.

Violence worsened dramatically when miners driven by poverty began to trickle back at strikebound pits.

The government, proclaiming "the right to work", drafted in tens of thousands of police with riot gear from all over Britain to get handfuls of working miners through mass picket lines.

Five men died on picket lines and more than 1,200 were injured. A taxi driver taking a strikebreaker to work was killed by a concrete slab. Pickets fired on police with air guns and laid nails to maim police horses. Astonished television viewers witnessed a mounted police charge against men on strike.

Bishops attacked the government and Queen Elizabeth was widely reported to have told Mrs. Thatcher of her "deep concern" over the effects of the strike on Britain's social fabric.

All through a summer and autumn of desultory talks, the Trades Union Congress (TUC), grouping all the big unions and 10 million unionists, tried to rally support for the miners.

Two brief national dock strikes were staged. Railmen and seamen did all they could to block coal movements. TUC money was delivered and the TUC solemnly pledged "total support".

The support that mattered, that of power and steel workers, was withheld by unions too fearful for their own men's jobs.

Working miners launched a legal offensive against their union which resulted in fines for contempt and seizure of the NUM assets, by then largely salved away abroad.

The second biggest coalfield, Nottinghamshire, which helped break the 1926 strike by setting up a rival union, took steps to do the same again as its 27,000 men worked on.

Saccharine alternative promoted

The U.S. pharmaceutical group G.D. Searle has been involved in a multi-million dollar promotion of an alternative to saccharine which it has named "NutraSweet". Terry Dodsworth reports on the amazing success of the campaign.

NEW YORK — About four years ago, G.D. Searle, the U.S. pharmaceutical group, was presented with the sort of choice which has rarely fallen to any company. Its new artificial sweetener, aspartame, had just been given the go-ahead by the Food and Drug Administration. Here was, in effect, a new commodity — one with exciting potential, perhaps, but still a commodity. How should the company market it?

The obvious answer would have been to treat aspartame just like any other intermediate raw material and sell it to food and drink manufacturers as the best price possible. There were unquestioned profits to be made in such an approach, since aspartame had qualities which were making its potential customers pant in anticipation.

A low calorie, non-fattening sweetener, aspartame offered an alternative to saccharine in the fast-growing diet food market.

Although much more expensive than the older product — aspartame costs around \$90 a pound against \$4 a pound for saccharine — it was judged by consumers to have a taste closer to that of sugar; and although some individuals complained of nausea from consuming it, aspartame had been given a clean bill of health from the Food and Drug Administration after one of the most exhaustive proving periods in history.

Searle, however, rejected the commodities-type marketing approach for something much more daring. It decided to try to give its new product, an amino acid whose sweetness was discovered quite accidentally by a research worker 16 years ago, an image of its own.

It endowed aspartame with a name — NutraSweet — and blazied off with a television advertising campaign of such intensity that it appears to have reached through to virtually every American. At \$30 million, Searle's advertising expenditure alone will amount this year to the sort of figure which detergent companies put behind support for their products.

Tim Healy, vice president of marketing for NutraSweet, says a consumer survey conducted at the end of last year showed that Americans asked to identify an artificial sweetener could more easily name NutraSweet than saccharine, the established market leader. "This was a pretty astonishing result for any new product if you apply the rules of conventional packaged goods marketing," he says.

Searle hit upon its strategy without, as Healy puts it, any "road map" to guide it. The long-term objective behind the image building is to capitalise on a technological breakthrough before patents run out. This is a more difficult process than it may sound, since Searle only has a very limited period to make its point. In the U.S., for example, its use patent expires in 1992, while in Canada and the U.K. it goes in 1987 and in West Germany next year.

As a result, the company decided to concentrate on three main markets — the U.S. Canada and the U.K. — where it believes that conditions are right to put its message across both in terms of health

consciousness and the influence of television. In the U.K., for example, it will shortly launch into a \$5 million television advertising campaign.

In the U.S., its \$30 million advertising budget is only one element of the promotional bonanza. It is planning to spend another \$20 million on public relations, while coughing up a part share in a further \$120 million of joint promotions with users. In addition, customers are likely to spend another \$500 million on their own, independently-funded promotions.

Part of the dynamics of this hectic promotional effort is that Searle has been able to convince its clients that NutraSweet is such a strong product that they can all work together to promote it.

The contractual basis of this endorsement is not entirely clear, since Searle refuses to say exactly what sort of joint promotional deal it has with NutraSweet's end users. "We have an agreement that we shall support the brand and that they in turn will do whatever they believe is strategically correct to support it as well," Mr. Healy says.

But the end result of the policy is not difficult to see. Because NutraSweet has built up its own brand awareness, its customers are able to explain the qualities of their low-protein, sweetened products with just the one word "NutraSweet" in a 30-second television commercial.

In their packaging, the manufacturers have an equally short-cut promotional device in the shape of the NutraSweet logo — a circular swirl which is carried almost exclusively on products which are sweetened only by NutraSweet. And the final result of the combination of advertising is an extraordinary spending total of more than \$300 million for a product that will probably bring in a figure of only around three times that in revenues this year.

The efficacy of this strategy will not, of course, become completely apparent until the U.S. patents expire. In the longer term, Searle will come under price pressure on NutraSweet in its big three markets from the ten manufacturers who have already geared up to sell aspartame elsewhere. Indeed, in most countries Mr. Healy says that its marketing is likely to be completely conventional.

In the meantime, however, the bandwagon that NutraSweet has managed to get rolling in its direction gives it tremendous momentum and flexibility. First the revenues it is earning from NutraSweet are allowing heavy investment in further research and development aimed at pushing costs down and broadening the product's appeal. Searle is confident that there are considerable production economies to be made, and it is working furiously on ways to make aspartame resistant to high temperatures — its use in confectionery is limited at present, since it loses its taste after being subjected to intense heat.

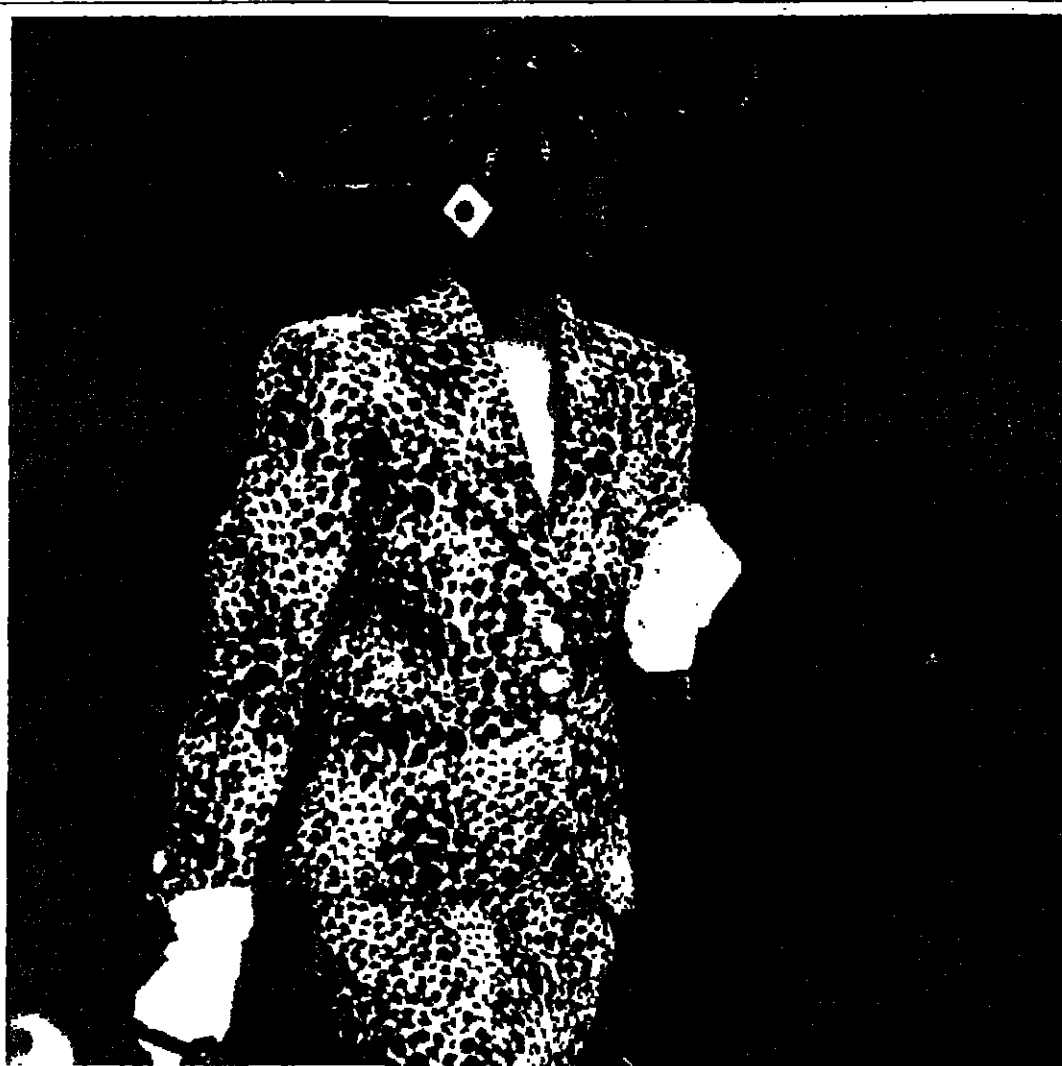
Secondly, the company has been able to maintain its prices and take what looks to be a hefty margin on the product, thereby building up some financial fat for the future. Operating earnings of

Searle's consumer product division, to which NutraSweet contributed 86 per cent of sales last year, jumped by 53 per cent to \$273 million.

The strength of demand for NutraSweet on which this premium pricing is based was underlined only a couple of months ago, when none other than Coca-Cola, the most powerful voice in the world soft drinks market, went over to using only NutraSweet in its Diet Coke.

The most telling point in this conversion was that Coke was following — or had been forced to follow — its arch-rival Pepsi, which had decided somewhat earlier to drop the original mixture of saccharine and NutraSweet in its Diet Pepsi.

The change-over adds weight to Searle's claim that NutraSweet has such a special pull with consumers that products containing only aspartame sweetening do much better than competitors — saccharine suffers both from a reputation of leaving a metallic after-taste, and of there being questions over possible carcinogenic qualities. Coke merely comments that the higher the percentage of NutraSweet in the sweetening mix, the "less the bite" in the taste. It is clear, it says, that "the consumer wants 100 per cent NutraSweet" — Financial Times news feature.



SWISS TISSUES: A classic costume from the Rive Gauche Collection from Yves St. Laurent made of printed silk.

TIME EUROPE

Norwegian Diplomat Bloody Thursday Strike Over Limits on Autobahns

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WATER AUTHORITY MAFRAQ WATER AND SEWERAGE PROJECT CONTRACT No. M2/66/85

- The Water Authority invites experienced contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan and contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who have been prequalified as General and First Class Water and Sewerage Contractors and General Class Roads and Buildings Contractors by the Ministry of Public Works of Jordan to submit bids for the supply and construction of Mafraq Contract No. M2 Waste Water Reclamation Facilities. Non-Jordanian contractors are encouraged to associate with such qualified contractors but may also associate with Second Class Water and Sewerage Contractors and First Class Roads or Buildings Contractors. The project consists of headworks, administration building, anaerobic, facultative and maturation ponds, chlorination system, and irrigation recycle pump station, equipment and system.
- A prebid conference will be held on Tuesday 2nd April, 1985 beginning at 9:00 hours at the office of the Water Authority.
- On April 2nd, 1985 contractors or joint ventures shall submit in a sealed envelope in person or by mail the information on the firm or on the firms of the joint venture requested in the instructions to bidders. The information will be evaluated and contractors will be informed whether or not to submit a bid.
- The bids are due not later than 12:00 noon, Jordan local time on Tuesday April 16, 1985 at the office of the Water Authority.
- Contract Documents may be examined and purchased at the following address:

Water Authority
Jabel Hussein
Nablus Street
P.O. Box 2412

Amman, Jordan
Telephone: 666111
Telex: 22439 WAJ JO.

The cost of the initial copy of the contract documents purchased by a bidder is JD 100 per set, and the cost of any additional copies of the contract documents by a bidder is JD 50 per set. No refunds will be made for the return of full or partial sets of contract documents. Copies of the contract documents will be sent to prospective bidders by the Water Authority upon receipt of the proper amount in a bank cheque.

President
Engineer S. Kilani

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J. P. L. 100

East Germany dominates European indoor athletics

ATHENS (R) — British sprinter Todd Bennett produced a world class performance to steal the spotlight from the victorious East German team at the European Indoor Athletics Championships Sunday.

Although East Germany topped the final medals table with three golds, six silvers and three bronzes, all eyes were on Bennett as he sliced 0.04 of a second off the world indoor mark of East German Thomas Schoenlebe in the men's 400 metres.

The powerful Briton clocked 45.56 seconds to claim the only world mark of the two-day championships and secure Britain second place in the medals stakes. The Soviet Union were third.

Bennett joined a host of star athletes who climbed the medals rostrum on the final day.

They included Soviet pole vaulter Sergei Bubka, who triumphed seemingly at ease but failed in his bid to raise the world indoor mark, and talented East German 100 metres world champion Marita Koch, winner of the women's 200 metres in what looked an effortless 22.82 seconds.

But there was a surprise defeat for her compatriot Marlies Goehr in the women's 60 metres. She finished second to Nellie Cooman of the Netherlands in the only major upset of the weekend.

Italian Stefano Tilli also enhanced his last growing reputation as a potential outdoor champion when he sped to the men's 200 metres title ahead of East German Olat Prenzler and Soviet Aleksandr Evgeniev, winner of the event for the past two years.

Tilli, who won the men's 60 metres crown two years ago, set a world indoor best time for the 200 metres of 20.52 last month and has never in trouble as he swept around the banked track in full stride.

Bennett led from the gun on the banked 200-metre track to win the gold medal from West German Klaus Just and snatch the world mark from East German Thomas Schoenlebe.

Schoenlebe had set the previous indoor best of 45.60 seconds when he beat Bennett to win the World Indoor Games event in Paris last January.

But the 22-year-old Bennett, from Southampton, made his mark in Schoenlebe's absence Sunday with a stylish and impressive display to take his first major individual championship title.

Bennett, drawn in lane three, cut back the stagger on just after only 150 metres and reached the halfway mark with a clear advantage.

He attacked again down the back straight, increasing his lead and leaving just with too large a gap to close off the final bend.

The West German made his bid off the bend but Bennett's tactically superb performance had already secured him the gold.

Just clocked 45.90 seconds with Spaniard Jose Alonso third in 46.52.

Bennett, a part time clerk and European junior champion in 1981, was clearly delighted after collecting his medal. "I had not expected I could set a new world indoor record," he said.

"I was not prepared for something like that. With no disrespect to the others, I did not think they would be good enough to push me that fast."

World 100 metres champion Marlies Goehr suffered a surprise defeat when she lost the women's 60 metres final to Nellie Cooman of the Netherlands.

Cooman, a 20-year-old who finished second at these championships last year, clocked 7.10 seconds to win by 0.03 of a second from Goehr.

But the East German, who is 27 later this month and who won the European indoor title in 1982 and 1983, was clearly below her best and ran with her right leg strapped.

Afterwards Cooman said: "I can't believe I have won the gold medal. I only came to qualify for the finals and improve my performance. My best performance was 7.23 seconds and they tell me I ran 7.10 — it's unbelievable."

There were few other surprises in the 15 other finals decided Sunday.

Romanian Doina Melinte clocked four minutes 02.54 seconds to win the women's 1,500 metres, the second fastest time indoors ever. Compatriot Fita Lovin was second in 4:03.46.

Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union, the world champion and record holder, won the European indoor pole vault title for the first time but failed in his much publicised bid to wrest the world indoor mark from Frenchman Thierry Vigneron.

Their expected duel failed to develop when Vigneron, holder of the world indoor best of 5.85 metres, entered and left the event at 5.60 metres after failing three times at that height.

No vaulter has ever entered a competition at such a height but Vigneron clearly believed the play was necessary to beat Bubka.

Soviet swimmer sets world 200m best

EAST BERLIN (R) — Igor Poljanski of the Soviet Union surged to a men's 200 metres backstroke world record against powerful East German opposition at an international dual swimming meet in Erfurt Sunday.

The 18-year-old from Siberia sped ahead of East Germany's Frank Baltrusch in the final length to clock one minute 58.14 seconds, 0.27 of a second faster than the previous mark set by Russian

Sergei Zabolotnov at the 'Friendship Games' in Moscow last year.

Baltrusch was second in 2:02.20 and his compatriot Dirk Richter clinched third place from Muscovite Alexander Sidorenko.

The record came on the third and final day of the Soviet-East German match which the East Germans won convincingly 200 points to 160.

Budd calls 10 km race 'normal'

PHOENIX, Arizona (AP) — British citizen Zola Budd and her South African adviser called the continental homes 10-kilometre road race "a normal race."

In certain respects it was, but in other respects it was not.

It was normal in that there were no accidents, as had occurred when Budd competed in the women's 3,000-metre final at the Los Angeles Olympics and she became entangled with Mary Decker, who has since married and is now Mary Slaney.

And it was normal because there were no interruptions, as had occurred in her previous race, the English Cross Country Championships at Birkenhead Feb. 16. Three anti-apartheid demonstrators had thrown themselves in front of her path and forced Budd to stop.

But Saturday's race was not normal in several other respects. Virtually all the pre-race publicity went to Budd, at the expense of the other competitors, many of them among the world's leading runners.

Also, security was more than doubled over each of the previous two years, as a precaution against further action against her.

After her second-place finish behind Britain's Wendy Sly in the women's division of the 6.2-mile race, she was whisked away by police and race organisers for a national television interview, then kept in seclusion until it was time for her to attend a press conference.

After the press conference, she was escorted into a van by security personnel, before being taken to the awards ceremony.

And, after the awards presentations, it was back into a van for a ride to the home of Charles Keating III, head of Continental Homes, with whom she had been staying since last Monday.

The extraordinarily special treatment that Budd was afforded all week, compared with the very ordinary treatment given some of the other extraordinary runners, was by no means normal.

Nor was the money that Budd was paid to run, an estimated \$25,000, also reportedly received three airline tickets back to South Africa for herself, coach Peter Labuschagne and adviser Jan Momborg, worth another few thousand dollars — compared with the rest of the star-studded runners.

And it was not normal that they started the women's race first, 15 minutes ahead of the men.

That was done for three reasons, explained media coordinator Jerry McNeil.

"First, because of Zola's security," he said. "Second, because after five events but the UCLA psychology major won it with a 9.70 score in the high bar. It was the same apparatus in which Daggett scored a 10.00 at Los Angeles to cement the U.S. team's gold medal victory over China.

Daggett finished with 57.350. Yang was second with 57.300 and Japanese Olympian Koji Somamura was third with a total of 56.85.

At the start, White appeared to have met her match in Minter, who made a name for herself this week by twice overcoming 1-5, third-set deficits on her way to the final.

The first set featured more Minter magic as she came back from 1-4, fought off four set points and won the tiebreaker 7-5.

White broke Minter's serve in the first game of the second set, and went on to win the set easily as the Australian failed to capitalise on her three breakpoint opportunities.

In the decisive third set, White again broke Minter in the opening game. A beautiful drop shot by White broke Minter for a 5-2 lead and White served out the match.

White held serve throughout the second and third sets while Minter was disappointed in her own service game. "I was spinning my first serve in, almost like a second serve," said Minter, 21, who admitted she tired badly in the last set.

Orser was again comparatively poor, managing only sixth place. But poor blade work by Heiko Fischer of West Germany, and Vladimir Kotin of the Soviet Union pushed him up to fourth place overall after the second exercise.

U.S. champion Brian Boitano was in seventh place overall.

Fellow American Mark Cocerrell had a disastrous day, finishing 14th in the first figure and 19th in the second, and dropped to 18th place.

McEnroe beats Curren in WCT shootout final

HOUSTON (R) — Top-seeded American John McEnroe kept his perfect record against South African Kevin Curren intact by scoring a 7-5, 6-1, 7-6 victory Sunday in the finals of the \$300,000 WCT shootout tennis tournament.

The victory, McEnroe's seventh without a loss to Curren, brought the world number one his 61st singles title and the first-prize of \$60,000.

Curren, ranked 11th in the world, pocketed \$30,000 for the runner-up finish as his nemesis thwarted his hopes of back to back tournament wins. He has managed to take only one of 16 sets overall against McEnroe.

McEnroe broke Curren in the last game of the first set and breezed through the second set in 23 minutes. Curren played well in the final set only to see McEnroe serve three aces and one service winner to win the tiebreaker 7-4 for the match.

McEnroe, 26, is the reigning Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion and is unbeaten so far this year.

"I hit the ball well today and I had good concentration," McEnroe said. "I'm not playing my best, but I think I got better and better as the week went along."

McEnroe also split \$18,000 with compatriot Peter Fleming after their 6-3, 6-2 victory in the doubles final against Americans Hank Pfister and Ben Testerman. The losers shared \$9,000.

Curren last week won a tournament in Toronto.

White claims her first U.S. circuit title

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania (R) — Robin White, saying she was spurred on by a patriotic challenge, capped a string of upsets by beating Anne Minter of Australia Sunday in the finals of a \$75,000 women's tennis tournament.

The unseeded White, who ousted top seed Peanut Louie of the U.S. in the semifinals, came from behind and finished strong to beat Minter, the eighth seed, 6-7, 6-2, 6-2.

When asked for the key to her crowning upset, White responded with a smile: "I was told no American had ever won this tournament."

White, in capturing her first title on the U.S. women's circuit, became the first American champion in the five-year history of this event.

The \$13,000 first prize was \$270 more than the 21-year-old White, ranked 91st in the world, earned in all of 1984.

At the start, White appeared to have met her match in Minter, who made a name for herself this week by twice overcoming 1-5, third-set deficits on her way to the final.

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White held serve throughout the second and third sets while Minter was disappointed in her own service game. "I was spinning my first serve in, almost like a second serve," said Minter, 21, who admitted she tired badly in the last set.

Orser was again comparatively poor, managing only sixth place. But poor blade work by Heiko Fischer of West Germany, and Vladimir Kotin of the Soviet Union pushed him up to fourth place overall after the second exercise.

U.S. champion Brian Boitano was in seventh place overall.

Fellow American Mark Cocerrell had a disastrous day, finishing 14th in the first figure and 19th in the second, and dropped to 18th place.

Retton becomes first woman to win 3 American Cup gymnastics titles

INDIANA (AP) — Olympic Champion Mary Lou Retton became the first woman gymnast to win three American Cup all-around titles, needing only two events to establish her superiority over a field of mostly unproven international challengers.

The United States scored a sweep when Olympian Tim Daggett edged China's Yu Feng was a distant second with 38.650 and Romania's diminutive 14-year-old Dymna Daniela Silivas finished third with 38.325.

"I felt so confident out there. I was even more confident than yesterday," Retton said.

She said she was especially pleased with her performance on the balance beam, where she scored a 9.825.

"That's the best beam I ever did in my life," said Retton, who followed a 9.775 effort by the 4-foot-5 Silivas.

Daggett, one of the few members of the gold-winning American Olympic team still competing, edged Yang in the final event, the high bar.

Daggett and Yang were tied

9.825 score in the uneven bars.

After that, it was only a question of who would finish second.

Retton was the only Olympic individual medal winner among the 16 women who competed and dominated from the opening day of qualifying on Saturday.

Retton finished with 39.350 points. China's Yu Feng was a distant second with 38.650 and Romania's diminutive 14-year-old Dymna Daniela Silivas finished third with 38.325.

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Fadeyev leads after 2 compulsory figures

TOKYO (R) — Aleksandr Fadeyev of the Soviet Union led the men's contest after two of the three compulsory figures exercises in the World Ice Figure Skating Championships, which opened Monday.

But he was strongly challenged by Fernand Fedronic of France and Jozef Sabovcik of Czechoslovakia as they went into the final figure, a difficult paragraph loop.

Sabovcik, 21, from Bratislava, the reigning European champion,

won the opening figure, an inside counter, ahead of Fadeyev, also 21, from Tashkent and the Frenchman.

Canada's Brian Orser, tipped as a favourite to win, finished in fifth place.

Fadeyev, seized the lead in the second figure, a paragraph bracket. Fedronic, 20, from Champigny, who won the figures contest at last month's European Championships in Gothenburg, was second on the bracket and Sabovcik could only manage third.

Orser was again comparatively poor, managing only sixth place. But poor blade work by Heiko Fischer of West Germany, and Vladimir Kotin of the Soviet Union pushed him up to fourth place overall after the second exercise.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.0700/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3935/45	Canadian dollars
	3.3720/35	West German marks
	3.8190/8210	Dutch guilders
	2.8935/50	Swiss francs
	67.83/88	Belgian francs
	10.3025/75	French francs
	2097/2099	Italian lire
	260.25/40	Japanese yen
	9.5400/5500	Norwegian crowns
	9.6600/6700	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	287.85/288.35	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed firm, but selective issues ended below their highs in quiet trading. The FTSE 100 share index at 1530 GMT was up 14.1 at 1,264.9.

The decision to end the one year old U.K. coal strike without a formal agreement had little impact. However, prices rose initially following Friday's sharp rise on Wall Street, dealers said.

Government bonds ended little changed from their initial point gains with strength of the dollar stemming the advance. Gold shares were mostly unchanged from Friday while North Americans were mixed.

House of Fraser jumped 61p to 405 having touched 415 following the agreed 400p per share cash offer from Alfayed Investment and Trust (U.K.).

Royal Insurance firmed 2p to 560 after 551 despite reporting annual results slightly below market expectations and Natwest Bank firmed 7p to 644 ahead of its figures Tuesday.

ICI added 2p to 846 and Unilever gained 15p to 1,160 after the sell of its subsidiary Norfolk Line. Cable and Wireless firmed 20p to 510 having signed a deal with China while Bati Industries up 35p at 378 and Jaguar up 14p at 339 were among shares to rise due to U.S. demand.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After a dynamic early morning towards gaining your most desired objectives, you will find a slowing of your pace, and then you would be wise to consider your long-range plans.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are enthused in the morning about gaining interesting goals, but later find that you need to plan more thoroughly.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) In the morning you get fine ideas on how to make conditions at home much better, but later find the work to be done rather difficult.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Before you make new contacts socially, be sure to choose the right ones for you so that you will have no regrets later.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Have an important conversation with others in the morning and come to right decisions.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get conditions around you as you want them to be and be very energetic.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how to be more gregarious in future and take the right initial steps in such direction. Be courteous and diplomatic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your friendships well so that you can improve them and gain more benefit from them in the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you are more enthused about the work you have to do, you can do it better and derive greater profit from it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are toying with a good idea in the morning that should be utilized and later you can also listen to the views of others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan how to best discharge your responsibilities in the future. Also confer with a clever business person.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get in touch early with those you want to establish better relations and make the right arrangements. Be happy.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Look at your work from the highest perspective and put new life into it, gain more profits. Get cooperation from fellow workers.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she can bring much pleasure to others early in life and will do very well in sports or have some special talent that is unusual. Make sure that the finest possible education is provided and your progeny can get into a vocation of real scope. Give praise where deserved and your progeny will thrive on it.

THE Daily Crossword

by Louis Santrey

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
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Arab bank, Whittaker conclude \$70m deal

BAHRAIN (R) — An Arab investment bank and an American conglomerate have combined in a \$70 million deal which will give them joint control of three of the world's top luxury yacht manufacturers.

Arabian Investment Banking Corporation (Investcorp) said it and Whittaker Corporation of the U.S. had set up two new companies to take over Whittaker's four marine subsidiaries.

The new companies have bought Whittaker's Berram, Trojan and Riva yacht subsidiaries and will later this year buy its Ketchikan marine division.

Whittaker and Investcorp each have a 46 per cent stake in the company taking over Berram and Trojan, whose senior executives will get an eight per cent stake in it.

The company formed to take over Riva, based in Sarnico, Italy, is half owned by both Investcorp and Whittaker.

Investcorp said the marine divisions, possibly the world's largest manufacturer of big power boats, had combined sales in 1984 of more than \$110 million.

Ketchikan operates a large boat repair yard in southern California and distributes marine hardware and accessories.

Investcorp said its part of the deal totalled \$36 million. The bank will invite international investors to take part, but retain part of the investment for its own account.

India hopes to clinch big M.E. deals

KUWAIT (R) — India's State Trading Corporation (STC) is seeking major rice contracts in the Gulf Arab states in a bid to boost Indian commodity sales to the Middle East, STC Chairman P.C. Luthar said Monday.

He told reporters he expects to sign a major deal in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday to supply high-quality Basmati rice, but declined to give sales details or the volume of the deal.

Talks aimed at clinching similar deals with Kuwait and Bahrain are at an advanced stage, an STC spokesman here said.

Mr. Luthar is in Kuwait on the second leg of a Gulf tour during which he has visited Saudi Arabia, and will go on to Abu Dhabi and Dubai to promote Indian exports.

The Middle East accounts for about 20 per cent of the state-owned trade agency's exports, which rose 25 per cent to a record \$796 million in the 1983/84 financial year which ended last March.

Sales to the region include agricultural products such as sugar, rice, coffee and cashew nuts, along with silver, precious stones, construction materials and light engineering products.

British miners begin return to work

LONDON (R) — Hundreds of British miners Monday returned to work a day before the official end of a strike called off Sunday after a year-long battle against pit closures.

A National Coal Board (NCB) spokesman said more than 200 men went back in the traditionally militant Yorkshire coalfield. A similar return was reported in Scotland and some 60 miners returned in the South Wales area.

A delegate conference of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) Sunday voted narrowly to organise an orderly return to work Tuesday without a settlement with employers after a strike lasting 356 days.

Some branches plan to march back to work behind labour union banners for the first shift Tuesday. NUM President Arthur Scargill, who was in favour of continuing the strike, said in a television interview Monday his men had won a great struggle.

"Make no mistake, miners will now conduct a guerrilla war against the board," he said.

Mr. Scargill Monday faced moves to oust him by a group of pitmen who had continued working throughout the dispute.

Members of the working miners' committee were meeting their lawyers to press ahead with a "dump Scargill" lawsuit initiated before the strike was called off and said they hoped to start court action later this week.

They plan to seek a high court order delaying elections to the 26-man executive of the NUM until October, when a new law requiring an individual ballot of all union members for such elections comes into force.

They hope such a ballot will produce a right-wing executive which would pass a vote of no confidence in Mr. Scargill and force his resignation, the men's lawyers said.

Unless he quits, Mr. Scargill, 46, can hold his position as miners' leader until he reaches retirement age in the year 2004. He took over as NUM president in 1982 before union rules were changed to require presidential elections every five years.

Mr. Scargill said Sunday it would be "misguided" to imagine he would quit.

Undaunted by working miners who vilified him for pursuing the strike or the militants who called him "traitor" for letting it end, he said: "I am so proud of my members, their wives and their families that I am burning."

Already faced with a growing drift back to work, NUM leaders took the decision to stop a feared breakup of their union.

The strike's collapse was widely regarded as a victory for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and was expected to reinforce her image as a resolute opponent of trade union militancy.

"Overwhelming relief" Mrs. Thatcher was puffed. She spoke of her "overwhelming relief" and ruled out an amnesty for miners sacked for picketing violence, now the union's main concern.

"We had to stand out against intimidation. We could never give in to blackmail or give in to a strike which makes impossible demands," she told reporters.

Mr. Scargill, whose union ordered the strike over NCB plans to close 20 money-losing pits and axe 20,000 jobs, said the battle had been lost but the fight would continue.

"We have decided by a narrow vote to return to work on Tuesday without an agreement... but rest assured that this union will continue to fight pit closures," he told reporters.

He said that after the return his union would urge the state-run NCB to grant an amnesty to about 700 men fired for picketline violence.

He strongly attacked the Trades Union Congress (TUC), Britain's organised labour movement, for failing to implement a pledge of total support for striking miners made at its conference last September.

NCB Chairman Ian MacGregor said the return to work would enable the board to "get down to the crucial task of ensuring the future success of the industry."

Independent economists put the cost of the strike at about £3 billion (\$3.2 billion), but some estimates put the total as high as £5.2 billion (\$5.5 billion), taking account of the impact on sterling's decline in money markets and national economic growth.

The motion to call for a dignified return to work was tabled by delegates from South Wales, where the strike has been most solid. They argued that the drift back would eventually result in a humiliating breakdown of the strike.

A TUC peace initiative to bring the two sides in the dispute to the negotiating table foundered two weeks ago after the NUM refused to agree to the closure of pits on economic grounds.

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100 die, over 1,000 hurt in Chilean earthquake

SANTIAGO (R) — Nearly 100 people were killed and more than 1,000 were injured when a powerful earthquake hit central Chile Sunday night, President Augusto Pinochet said Monday.

An Interior Ministry report had put the toll at 89 dead, 1,449 injured and three people missing. Local radio stations said there were more than 2,000 injured and thousands had lost their homes. Gen. Pinochet urged the public to remain calm in a brief television address at 0435 (0735 GMT) after an emergency cabinet meeting. He went on to drive through streets littered by rubble and broken glass to assess damage. Reports from police and the government emergency office said 53 people died in Santiago alone as hundreds of old houses collapsed and lights went out causing a series of traffic accidents. The four-minute-long quake hit the Chilean capital of 4.4 million people, the main port of Valparaiso and a string of sea coastal resorts at 1950 (2250 GMT) Sunday night. At least eight people were crushed to death by falling masonry during evening mass at two churches in Valparaiso and San Bernardo.

The Seismic Institute of the University of Chile said the epicentre of the quake, registering 7.8 on the 12-point Mercalli Scale, was under the Pacific Ocean 26 miles off the resort of Algarrobo, south of Valparaiso. It was felt as far as Buenos Aires, 1,300 kilometres away.

Tremors rocked Santiago for three hours after the main quake and electricity was cut for four hours. Roads to Valparaiso were cut off as bridges collapsed and phone communications were erratic.

Radio stations quoted hospital officials as saying hundreds of people were injured. Ambulances and fire engines raced through darkened streets strewn with rubble to reach the injured and tackle fires which broke out in several areas of the capital.

A radio station said four people were crushed to death when a suburban Cinema collapsed. Authorities appealed to people to keep cars off the road and stay away from old buildings. Armed troops were sent into the streets to prevent looting and thousands of families camped out in the rubble. Part of the roof collapsed at the departure terminal at Santiago International Airport but no-one was injured. Planes due to leave were grounded.

The Archbishop of Santiago, Juan Francisco Fresno, told reporters he narrowly escaped death when a large chunk of glass fell close to him as he was saying mass. President Augusto Pinochet and his entire cabinet cut short a visit to Punta Arenas, Chile's southernmost city 2,300 kilometres away and flew back to Santiago. Chile, a narrow country squeezed between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes and dotted with volcanoes, lies in one of the world's major earthquake zones. About 30,000 people died in an earthquake in the southern region of Chillan in the 1940s, and nearly 6,000 were killed by a quake and a tidal wave in Valdivia in 1960.

Radio reports said a church collapsed in San Bernardo, near Santiago, killing five people. A cornice fell off the Santiago Town Hall on a police bus, killing a policeman, eyewitnesses said. Thousands of tourists had returned to Santiago from sea resorts in the region of Valparaiso at the weekend, at the end of the traditional February summer holiday.

The quake also rocked the Argentine city of Mendoza, across the Andes. Hundreds of people ran from their homes, and football fans fled the stadium. Seven people died in an earthquake in Mendoza last month. The quake was felt as far away as La Plata, east of Buenos Aires. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties in Argentina.

Hawke: ANZUS now treaty in name only

CANBERRA (R) — Australia Monday announced the postponement of annual talks with its two ANZUS partners and signalled that the military pact with the United States and New Zealand was now a treaty in name only.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke said the scheduled July foreign ministers' meeting in Canberra was impracticable following the New Zealand ban on nuclear ships' visits.

"I think you'd have to say that insofar as ANZUS was a trilateral relationship ... there is virtually nothing of it which is operative now," Mr. Hawke told a press conference.

Washington has drastically curtailed defence cooperation with Wellington, cancelling joint exercises and intelligence gathering since a ban on port entry to one of its warships last month.

The New Zealand government reacted quickly to the postponement, saying that in some respects the decision made sense. "It will allow the dust to settle. It will allow us to consider the position with less pressure," acting Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer told reporters. Prime Minister David Lange is in London.

But Mr. Hawke said in an earlier statement on the postponement that the ANZUS treaty remained and this point was not in dispute between any of the three partners.

The Australian government's main responsibility was to protect its essential national security interests, he added.

This would be done through bilateral channels with both partners while the present circumstances prevailed.

The government would soon announce specific arrangements relating to its ties with the United States and New Zealand, Mr. Hawke said.

Australia has repeatedly said the ANZUS dispute must be solved between its two allies, but has also made it clear that it does not agree with Wellington's anti-nuclear stand.

Zia curtails judicial power over martial law

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's military ruler General Muhammad Zia Ul Haq has issued a decree banning courts from calling into question any of the martial law regulations issued since he seized power in 1977.

Gen. Zia announced a series of constitutional amendments on Saturday which will strengthen his own post of president and create a watchdog military-civilian National Security Council.

A detailed formal presidential order issued Sunday also contained clauses validating all actions of the military government since the July 1977 coup which toppled Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Mr. Bhutto was later hanged.

Gen. Zia told foreign journalists last week his critics would be free to take him to court for treason once martial law was lifted and that the new National Assembly would not pass an indemnity act to protect him and other generals against charges their coup abrogated the constitution.

The new decree says that all of Gen. Zia's orders, martial law regulations and all other laws made after the July 5, 1977, coup "are hereby declared to have been validly made by competent authority and shall not be called in question in any court on any ground whatsoever."

Gen. Zia held elections to a National Assembly and four provincial assemblies last week but barred political parties, banned since 1979, from contesting. A new parliament is due to open on March 23, but Gen. Zia said the lifting of martial law and the revival of the amended constitution which he suspended in 1977 would be done in stages.

Gen. Zia has set no date for the enforcement of the amendments.

Blast damages South African party offices

JOHANNESBURG (R) — An explosion Monday damaged the offices of South Africa's ruling National Party in a district where there has been recent black unrest.

Police said they suspected a bomb had been planted in the party's offices in Kroonstad, south of Johannesburg, shattering windows and damaging buildings across the road. No-one was injured by the blast.

Kroonstad lies near the black township of Seicoville where two died after school boycotts protesting that education for blacks was inferior.

The National Party has been in power in Pretoria since 1948 and established the republic's apartheid system of racial segregation under white domination.

Police also said two whites were slightly injured Sunday when their car was stoned by black demonstrators in Mmandi township in the eastern Cape province.

One black was later hit by birdshot as police moved in to quell the disturbances. He was taken into custody along with three other protesters.

Kanaks burn 2 schools in N. Caledonia

NOUMEA (R) — Pro-independence black militants have set fire to two schools in France's troubled Pacific territory of New Caledonia, police said Monday.

They destroyed a school for about 20 children in Houailou on the territory's north-east coast Sunday night and burnt down two classrooms and the principal's house at a primary school on the small island of Ouvea Monday.

Police said there were no casualties but tension was running high on Ouvea where Kanak (Melanesian) militants had set up tree roadblocks.

The attacks on the schools were apparently to support a school boycott by militants of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), police said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

THE TALE OF THE EIGHT OF HEARTS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the "column" to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K 4 3 2

♥ 5

♦ Q 10 5 4 2

♣ K J 5

EAST

♠ J 10 8 5

♥ K Q 10 6 4 2

♦ J 9 6

♣ A Q 9 7 3 2

SOUTH

♠ A 9 7 6

♥ A 8

♦ A K 8 7 3

♣ 8

The bidding: South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠.

As cards go, the Eight of Hearts did not look particularly impressive, as befitted a member of the pack who might go through life without ever winning a trick. But he certainly was vocal enough with his complaints.

"These stories you tell about the wonderful exploits of my fellow cards - bah, humbug! Anyone can win a trick - you just have to be around at the right moment. But how many of them can claim to have played a major part in a victory

ASALA threatens French interests

PARIS (R) — An Armenian guerrilla group has threatened to make worldwide attacks against French interests in retaliation for a life jail sentence passed by a Paris court on a self-confessed Armenian guerrilla.

An anonymous caller, claiming to belong to the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), made the threat in a call to international news agencies following the conviction Sunday of Varoujan Garbadian.

Garbadian was found guilty by an assize court of being an accomplice to a bombing at Paris' Orly Airport in July 1983 which killed eight people and injured 56.

"From now on ... no one has the right to condemn the bloodshed that France and its interests will witness all over the world," the caller said in broken English.

"The French false Socialist authorities will regret for the rest of its life the brutal verdict," he added.

Police said they were taking the call seriously, adding that in view of the stiff sentence they had been expecting a response from ASALA.

The caller also condemned jail sentences of 10 and 15 years respectively handed down against Ohannes Semerci and Soner Nair for their roles in the blast, the worst in France in two decades.

The trio were convicted on charges including complicity in murder and premeditated murder but there was no proof that any of the three had actually planted the bomb.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

THE TALE OF THE EIGHT OF HEARTS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the "column" to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K 4 3 2

♥ 5

♦ Q 10 5 4 2

♣ K J 5

EAST

♠ J 10 8 5

♥ K Q 10 6 4 2

♦ J 9 6

♣ A Q 9 7 3 2

SOUTH

♠ A 9 7 6

♥ A 8

♦ A K 8 7 3

♣ 8

The bidding: South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠.

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Zimbabwe lifts clampdown on Bulawayo

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwean security forces have lifted a military clampdown on the western township of Bulawayo, an opposition leader Joshua Nkomo charged was aimed at coercing people to vote for the government in forthcoming general elections.

More than 4,000 troops and police encircled the sprawling, mainly black township before dawn on Saturday, stopping all movement in and out and virtually paralysing the city of 420,000 people.

The cordon was lifted at dusk Sunday. A government spokesman said no arrests or disturbances were reported during the operation, which he added was aimed at curbing politically-inspired violence in the townships.

Mr. Nkomo, whose main power base is Bulawayo, capital of western Matabeleland province, told a press conference here Sunday that he had been barred from getting to his own home in the cordoned-off area.

"This is a way of demoralising and dehumanising people so they will only vote for the government," he said.

Campaigning for Zimbabwe's first post-independence elections, scheduled for June, has been marred by violence.

IN MOURNING: Shi'ite Muslim women weep for the Maarakah villagers who were killed or wounded when a bomb went off in their village in occupied South Lebanon. The village had been raided only 24 hours earlier by the Israeli army which was searching for resistance forces who had been attacking Israeli troops in the area (AP Wirephoto).

Reagan to decide soon on arms talks strategy

BONN (R) — President Reagan will decide this week on the United States' negotiating position at arms talks with the Soviet Union in Geneva, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt was quoted Monday as saying.

The president will have to decide in the course of this week between the various options worked out in the past months by several working groups. Mr. Burt told the West German newspaper Die Welt in an interview.

Die Welt said Mr. Reagan would probably consult personally this week with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other government leaders in the NATO alliance on the U.S. position at the Geneva talks, which are set to begin on March 12.

Mr. Burt and the U.S. negotiating team are to visit Brussels, on March 11 on their way to Geneva for talks with the NATO council.

Die Welt quoted Mr. Burt as saying Moscow's negotiating strategy — that it was ready to make substantial nuclear arms cuts but could not be expected to do so while the U.S. pressed ahead with its Star Wars project for space defence — aimed to drive a wedge between Washington and its allies.

"They (the Soviets) are dangling a bait before Western public opinion and will play the same game with the American Congress when the question of financing the SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) system becomes acute," Mr. Burt said.

He said Mr. Reagan had given U.S. negotiators room for new ideas at the Geneva talks but had made clear that certain fundamental criteria should not be violated.

These included the principle that any Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles withdrawn from Europe should not be targeted instead on Asia.

Philippine president 'res' foreign minister

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Monday fired his foreign minister, 74-year-old Arturo Tolentino, the presidential palace said.

Mr. Tolentino, released by the palace, said his views on certain matters were "incompatible with those of the party and the government."

Mr. Tolentino, named foreign minister after National Assembly elections last June, has long been a critic of some aspects of government, especially the president's power to rule by decree.

Mr. Marcos said remarks made by Mr. Tolentino about diplomatic appointments that appeared in a Manila newspaper "could best have been taken up with me personally before being released to the media."

He said he had "no other choice... it will not be possible any longer for you to continue in office."

Mr. Tolentino, viewed as a maverick among members of the ruling New Society Movement (KBL), was instrumental in forcing through parliament a number of constitutional amendments early last year.

Meanwhile three commercial buildings burned down during the night in the latest fires to erupt in the Philippine capital, police said Monday.

No casualties were reported and police did not say what had caused the fires although they estimated damage at four million pesos (\$300,000).

Six fires have broken out in Manila since the start of an official "fire prevention month" four days ago.

Several hundred homeless families are camped alongside a major highway after a fire raged through a shanty-town area in central Manila for eight hours on Thursday night.

About 70 people have died in hotel fires in the Philippines during the past five months. The latest and worst killed 25 people at the luxury Regent of Manila last month.

As for the Aquino murder trial which resumed Monday the family of Rolando Galman, the man the military said killed Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino, defied subpoenas and failed to appear in court a second time.

Their lawyer Lupino Lazaro told a court trying 26 people in connection with the Aquino murder the family was determined not to give evidence following a statement by President Ferdinand Marcos that military chief Fabian Ver will be reinstated if acquitted.

Gen. Ver, a close confidant of Mr. Marcos, is one of three accused free on bail.

Shark bites woman in half

ADELAIDE, South Australia (R) — A giant white pointer shark tore a 33-year-old Australian woman in half while her four young daughters watched horrified from a beach, police said Monday. Professional hunters have been called in to search for the shark which killed the woman as she swam in two metres of water near the South Australian fishing town of Port Lincoln. The woman, who has not been named, was snorkelling with her husband and a friend. Her daughters, playing on the beach, saw the shark attack. Eyewitnesses said it was at least six metres long.

Pirates seize oil shipment

BANGKOK (R) — Seven Thai pirates hijacked a barge in the Gulf of Thailand and made off with its 300,000-litre diesel oil cargo, Marine Police said. The pirates, armed with shotguns, seized the barge a few hours after it collected its cargo from a suburban Bangkok oil depot on Friday night. One of the seven crew was injured in the takeover. The empty barge was found 24 hours later. Police said they were questioning three suspects.

4 killed, 3 escape in jail break

CEBU, Philippines (R) — Four men were shot dead, six surrendered and three escaped in a jail breakout in the central Philippines, police said Monday. The men cut their way through a fence behind the prison compound and escaped during a church service Sunday. Police said guards could not see them because a pig pen blocked the view. Women prisoners in an adjoining building spotted the escapees and raised the alarm.

Voter bitten by ballot-box snake

NEW DELHI (R) — A man trying to cast his vote in an Indian state election was bitten by a snake which slithered from the ballot box, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. Despite the bite, inflicted at a polling station in Banda, Uttar Pradesh state the man managed to finish voting before being rushed off for medical treatment, the news agency said.

Syndicates sneak immigrants into Canada

SINGAPORE (R) — Pakistan-based syndicates are sneaking into Canada hundreds of illegal immigrants through Asian cities, including Singapore, the Canadian High Commission said Monday.

Illegal immigrants, mainly Iranians, Afghans and Sri Lankans, pay up to \$10,000 each for forged passports or visas and return air tickets to Canada, a commission spokesman told Reuters. Europe was once the popular staging post. But strict enforcement by Canadian and European authorities had made the syndicates shift to places like India, the Philippines, Thailand, Japan, Malaysia and Singapore. "It is like a water-filled balloon. You squeeze one end and it bulges out the other," he said.

Sperm bank set up for endangered farm animals

HANOVER, West Germany (R) — The West German state of Lower Saxony is setting aside 40,000 marks (\$12,050) to establish a sperm and embryo bank for endangered farm animals such as drayhorses and plough-horses. A state government spokesman said that the fund would be spent on storing sperm and embryos of species threatened with extinction such as certain breeds of work horses and oxen.

French walking wonder dies

CLERMONT-FERRAND, France (R) — A short, wiry Frenchman, who at the age of 82 began cross-country Europe on foot after doctors told him he would never walk again, died Monday at the age of 101, hospital sources said. Joseph Bastianelli, who became known as "The Walking Grandpa", took up marathon walking after doctors told him a broken hip would leave him chair-bound.

Slain Chinese writer was paid by Taiwan, widow says

NEW YORK (R) — Chinese-American writer Henry Liu, whose murder last October sparked a scandal in Taiwan, received \$17,000 from the island before his death, his widow said in a television interview.

The payments were "apparently part of a deal" between the Taiwan government and Liu, who had written a book critical of Taiwanese President Chiang Ching-Kuo, the CBS network said in a commentary accompanying the interview Sunday.

"According to Mrs. Liu, for many years the Taiwan government had tried to influence his writings," CBS said. "A year ago they succeeded and soon thereafter the money started to arrive."

Helen Liu said on camera that her husband was due to receive \$20,000 in instalments. But the last payment of \$3,000 did not arrive before he was shot by three gunmen at his home in Daly City, a suburb of San Francisco.

Asked why the final sum was not paid, Mrs. Liu said: "I don't know."

"The gunmen arrived instead?"